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integrate women into
submarine service

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Yankees complete sweep of Twins,
will face Angels next Back page



North Korea test-fires
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Pakistan bombing kills at least 41

By RIAZ KHAN
The Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — A suicide car bombing targeting Pakistani troops killed 41 people Monday, the fourth grisly militant attack in just over a week, as the Taliban pledged to mobilize fighters across the country for more strikes.

The Taliban also claimed responsibility for the 22-hour weekend attack on the nation's heavily fortified army headquarters, saying a cell from Pakistan's most populous province carried out the raid.

The claim that a Punjabi faction of the Pakistani Taliban was behind that strike is a sign the insurgents have forged links with militants outside their main strongholds in Pashtun areas close to the Afghan border, increasing their potency.

The army, however, maintained it was launched from South Waziristan — where the military is preparing for what will likely be a long and bloody offensive against the major base of the Taliban along the frontier.

In the latest strike, a suicide bomber detonated a car packed with explosives near an army vehicle in a market in the northwest Shingla district, provincial Information Minister Mian Iftikhar Hussain said. The attack killed 41, including six security officers, and wounded 45 other people, he said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

SEE PAKISTAN ON PAGE 2



MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

A victim injured in a suicide attack in Shingla, Pakistan, is carried into a hospital in Peshawar on Monday.



A bitter pill to swallow

A former Marine stricken
with cancer becomes
key witness in Vieques
residents' case against
the U.S. Navy

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Former U.S. Marine Sgt. Hermogenes Marrero, who is battling cancer, sits in his home in Isabela, Puerto Rico. Marrero, who oversaw a U.S. Navy weapons and chemical depot in Vieques from 1970 to 1972, testified in a civil case that Vieques residents filed against the Navy, which they accuse of contaminating the region.

RICARDO ARDUENGO/AP

QUOTE

OF THE DAY

"I wonder what this guy is bringing us? Well, he's bringing us smallpox, for one thing, and none of us are going to live very long."

— James Kracht, of Texas A&M College of Education and Human Development, on the depiction of Native Americans in early versions of the Christopher Columbus story

See story on Page 10

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MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

A Pakistani doctor treats a person injured in a suicide attack in Shangla, at a local hospital in Peshawar, Pakistan, on Monday. A suicide car bombing targeting Pakistani troops killed at least 41 people Monday, the fourth grisly militant attack in just over a week, as the Taliban pledged to mobilize fighters across the country for more strikes.

Pakistan: Attacks vengeance for leader's death

PAKISTAN, FROM PAGE 1

Shangla lies east of Swat, which has been the focus of an intense military operation against the Taliban. The army says it has largely cleared the valley of the insurgents, but the bombing demonstrated their continuing ability to mount deadly attacks there. Many Taliban are believed to have melted into the rural areas or gone to neighboring districts.

The recent string of bloody attacks began last week when a suicide bomber blew himself up inside a heavily guarded U.N. aid agency in the heart of the capital, Islamabad, killing five staffers. On Friday, a suspected militant detonated an explosives-laden car in the middle of a busy market in the northwestern city of Peshawar, killing 53 people.

Those attacks were followed by the raid on army headquarters in the city of Rawalpindi on Saturday that killed nine militants and 14 others. Military spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas said the mili-

itants were hoping to seize senior army officials and trade them for their jailed comrades.

"Their main focus was the release of their leaders," he said, adding that the attack was launched from South Waziristan.

The army also intercepted audio of deputy Taliban leader Waliur Rehman getting an update on the attack and telling a subordinate to pray for the assailants, Abbas said.

Abbas said the attacks were aimed at making the government reconsider its decision to go after the Taliban in their heartland on the Afghan border. However, the government had already decided in principle to launch the offensive, and the army will now decide how and when to carry it out.

Taliban spokesman Azam Tariq said the assault on army headquarters was only the first in a planned wave of strikes intended to avenge the killing of Pakistani Taliban chief Baitullah Mehsud in a CIA missile strike in August.

"This was our first small effort and a present to the Pakistani and American governments," he said.

He said the raid on army headquarters was carried out by the "Punjabi faction" of the militant group and it had given orders to militant branches in Pakistan's other provinces — Sindh, Baluchistan and the Northwest Frontier Province — to launch similar operations.

While membership of Pakistan's militant groups has always been overlapping, the prospect of them joining forces will alarm the government of the nuclear-armed nation as well as its Western allies, who need a stable Pakistan to defeat insurgents in neighboring Afghanistan.

The standoff at army headquarters followed warnings from police as early as July that militants from western border areas were joining those in the central Punjab province in plans for a bold attack on army headquarters.

The suspected ringleader in the

raid, a Punjabi known as Aqeel, also was believed to have orchestrated an ambush on Sri Lanka's visiting cricket team in Lahore this year.

Also Monday, the Lahore High Court told police to toss out two criminal cases against a hardline cleric India blames for the last year's deadly siege of Mumbai, an official said.

Police had accused Hafiz Saeed of illegally holding a public gathering and raising funds for a group they say was banned. The cases appeared designed to keep Saeed under some sort of detention while Pakistan probes his alleged role in the November attack that killed 166 people.

But government prosecutor Malik Abdul Aziz said the court found there was no proof the government ever technically banned the group, Jamaat-ud-Dawa. Saeed says Jamaat is a charity, but the U.N. has described it as a front for the militant group suspected in the siege, Lashkar-e-Taiba.

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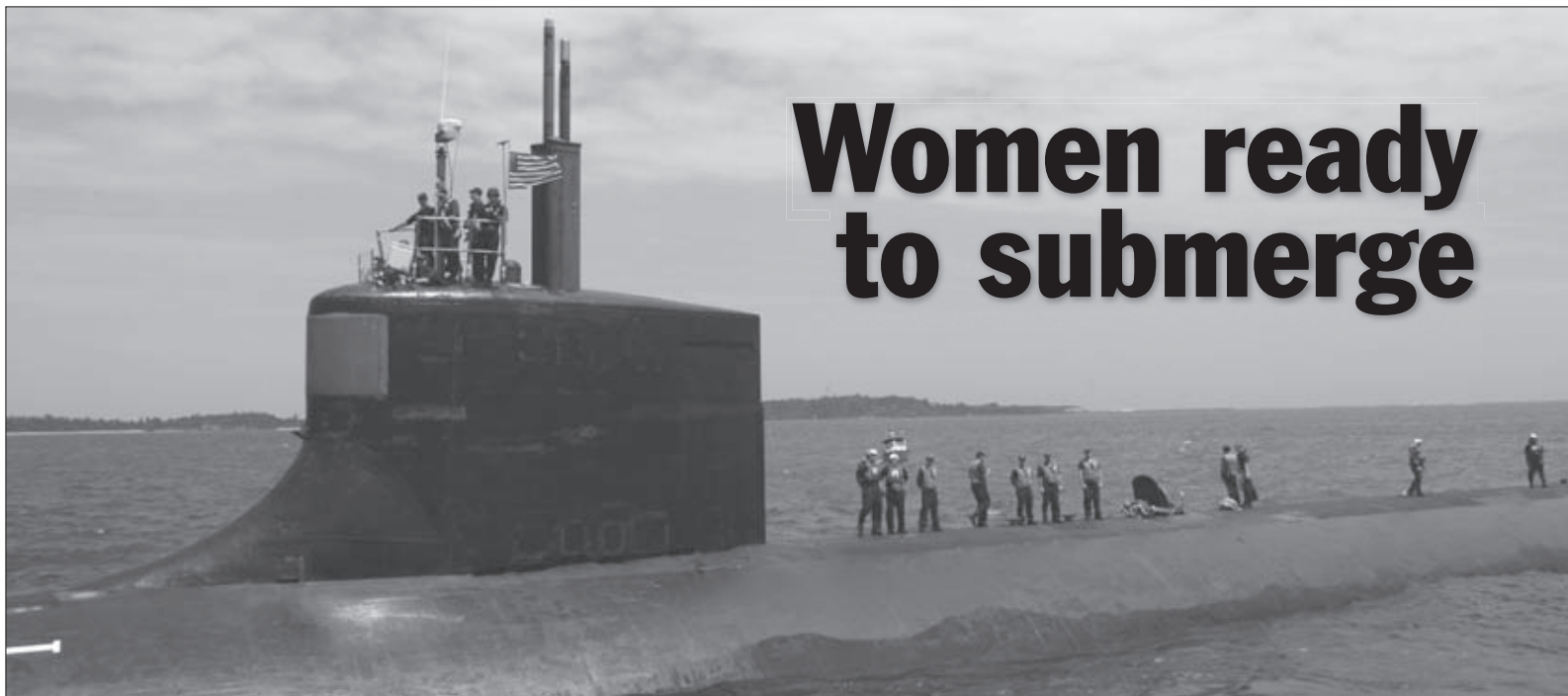
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ERIK SLAVIN/Stars and Stripes

The USS Seawolf surfaces near Okinawa on May 3 to take on cargo and passengers. The Bremerton, Wash.-based fast-attack submarine is an example of one of the smaller-class submarines, which could cost more to reconfigure to make room for women than the more spacious Ohio-class submarines, according to Navy officials.

Women ready to submerge

Navy leaders pledge support for integrating submarine fleet

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — As women move closer to changing the face of U.S. Navy submarines, several challenges lie ahead to fully integrate its fleet.

Questions remain among submarine advocates about health, living arrangements, boat design and promotion prospects for the first women who would serve as permanent crewmembers aboard U.S. Navy submarines.

Nevertheless, the Navy's top military and civilian leaders have all publicly proclaimed their support within the past month for ending rules barring women from sub service.

"This is something the [chief of naval operations] and I have been working on since I came into office," Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus said Sept. 28, according to a Navy news release. "We are moving out aggressively on this. I believe women should have every opportunity to serve at sea, and that includes aboard submarines."

In a coinciding statement, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead said that the Navy has studied the issue for years and that he believes it is feasible.

"Having commanded a mixed gender surface combatant, I am very comfortable addressing integrating women into the submarine force," Roughead said.

For now, the Navy is concentrating on offering submarine duty to women receiving their commissions after graduating from college in May, said Chief of Naval Information spokesman Lt. Cmdr. John Daniels.

The Navy has yet to announce a plan to transition enlisted sailors or current officers into the submarine community, he said.

Upon entering the Navy, the newly minted female ensigns would attend nuclear power

school, then another school for training on a prototype nuclear reactor, Daniels said.

They would then enroll in the submarine officer basic course.

"The earliest you would see women aboard subs is 2011," Daniels said.

Once sub school graduates join a crew, they begin studying daily to "earn their dolphins," a rigorous process that ensures a submariner knows all of the boat's systems.

That means the first submarine-qualified female officer probably wouldn't be seen until 2012.

Women have been serving aboard submarines for years, though not as permanent crewmembers. And Naval Academy female midshipmen have served their summer tours aboard subs.

There were also 12 women currently qualified as undersea medical officers as of June, according to Navy personnel data.

The medical officers also learn about all of a boat's systems, but their training is not as comprehensive as an officer of the line's training.

One of those medical officers, Lt. Cmdr. Marilisa Elrod, told Stars and Stripes in July that she believed women would be well-suited to serve on submarines.

However, new instructions for medics would likely be necessary to take women's health needs into consideration, she said.

Submarines and unexpected pregnancy

Health issues have long been one of the loudest arguments made by opponents of women serving on subs.

Elaine Donnelly, president of the nonprofit Center for Military Readiness, argued against allowing women on submarines about 10 years ago, after a civilian defense panel recommended it.

Donnelly remains opposed, in part because of "biological realities that pose a real threat to all crewmembers, and an unborn child, if a pregnancy is discovered while on an undersea mission," she said in an e-mail to Stripes.

Donnelly points to a letter written to Congress in 2000 by Hugh Scott, a retired rear admiral and undersea medical officer.

The concentration of carbon dioxide on a submarine is 10 times greater than in the open atmosphere, Scott said.

While studies on adult males have shown no ill effects, Scott said no such studies existed on whether submarine atmospheres would affect pregnant women.

"Consequently, no categorical assurances can be provided regarding the safety of the fetus to exposures to carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and other hazardous materials found in the submarine atmosphere," Scott wrote in the letter.

Scott noted that congenital birth defects have been found on animals exposed to elevated carbon dioxide levels, although those levels were about 1,000 percent higher than those found on a sub.

Daniels said Thursday that he would check whether the Navy had data regarding any potential effects on women's reproductive health, but that such information wasn't immediately available.

"Of course, safety is everyone's number one priority," Daniels added.

Women have been serving aboard surface ships for the past

16 years. Ships don't knowingly go underway with a pregnant crewmember; if one is found, she is medically evacuated from the ship.

Protocols exist for medically evacuating sailors from submarines as well, though at times, a submarine may be far from a port or unable to surface because of an intelligence mission.

Making room for women

Navy officials say that allowing women to serve aboard submarines expands the available talent pool.

However, when women first begin serving permanently aboard submarines, their choices will be limited.

They will serve on either the fleet's 14 Ohio-class nuclear ballistic missile submarines, or one of the four Ohio-class submarines modified for added Tomahawk missiles and special operations.

The 560-foot-long Ohio-class submarines are packed very tightly, but they are spacious enough to accommodate women in junior officer staterooms and provide a limited degree of privacy.

The far more numerous fast-attack submarines are much smaller and could cost more to reconfigure to make room for women, Navy officials say. Privacy is extremely limited.

The Navy intends to eventually allow women on fast-attack subs as well. However, no timetable exists yet, Daniels said.

If it remains that way for long, it might cap a female officer's promotion potential, said C. Michael Garverick, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Naval Submarine League.

Senior staff submarine officers are usually expected to have served on both missile and fast-attack submarines, said Garverick, a retired submarine captain.

"They would be somewhat limited in where they can go," Garverick said. "If this is really going to happen, they're going to have to figure out what to do about the fast-attack sub."

That could mean costly modifications to existing submarines, or it could alter the design of future submarines.

The Obama administration and Defense Secretary Robert Gates have both voiced support for funding a replacement to the Ohio-class Trident submarines. Meanwhile, the Navy signed a \$14 billion contract in 2008 with contractors to produce eight Virginia-class fast-attack submarines.

Navy officials say it's still too early to talk about changes to either the proposed Ohio-class replacement or new Virginia-class subs.

But Garverick, whose submarine advocacy group has close ties to the Navy's submarine contractors, believes design changes are likely.

"I would almost bet on it," Garverick said.

Garverick said adding women to the all-male environment will require some transition for sailors; however, he believes that they ultimately continue to do their duty, as ordered.

"It will be a cultural change, but it won't be the first one we've gone through," Garverick said. "Certainly there will be some problems, but I can't believe they will be insurmountable."

E-mail Erik Slavin at: slavine@pstrips.osd.mil



Former Marine Sgt. Hermogenes Marrero, who now lives in Isabela, northwestern Puerto Rico, worked at a U.S. Navy weapons and chemical depot in nearby Vieques as a military police officer from 1970 to 1972. He is a key witness in a lawsuit alleging the Navy contaminated the region with chemical weapons.

PHOTOS BY RICARDO ARDUENGO/AP

Lasting scars

Veteran at the forefront of community's lawsuit over Navy testing ground

By MIKE MELIA
The Associated Press

ISABELA, Puerto Rico — The headaches began just after Hermogenes Marrero arrived on Vieques, the small Puerto Rican island where the young U.S. Marine guarded stores of Cold War-era chemical weapons.

The retired sergeant, now 57 and terminally ill with cancer and other ailments, blames exposure to toxins released while he was stationed there from 1970 to 1972. By coming forward to support similar claims by island residents, he has become the public face of a new and bitter battle over Vieques, the Navy bombing range-turned-tourist destination off the U.S. territory's east coast.

"I've been sick since I left Vieques," said Marrero, who uses a wheelchair and now lives in an apartment cramped with life-support equipment in this small town in northwestern Puerto Rico.

Marrero is a key witness in a lawsuit seeking billions of dollars in compensation for illnesses that past and current Vieques residents have linked to the bombing range, where the U.S. and its allies trained for conflicts from Vietnam to Iraq.

The range closed in 2003 after years of protests over the environmental risks and the death of a Puerto Rican civilian guard who was killed in 1999 by an errant bomb. Many had long complained about clouds of smoke and dust wafting toward populated areas and explosions echoing across the hilly, 18-mile-long island of fewer than 10,000 people.



The U.S. has denied any link between illnesses and weapons that rained down on the island for six decades. With independent studies suggesting otherwise, however, a federal health agency recently began a new analysis of the situation.

Marrero has had colon cancer twice. He is losing his vision and suffers from more than a dozen other illnesses, including Lou Gehrig's disease, that he believes are lingering effects of his 18 months at Camp Garcia. He said he was recently diagnosed with a new bout of cancer that is inoperable in part because of a lung disease that requires him to stay on oxygen around the clock.

He is not party to the lawsuit because it is limited to Vieques residents, and it involves more than 7,000 of them. But he has been fighting his own battle to have his ailments recognized as service-related.

The chemicals he handled included canisters labeled "112" — a reference, he later surmised, to the secret Project 112 program that tested chemical and biological

"Maybe I am continuously still a test. How long will a soldier last after being exposed to poison?"

Hermogenes Marrero

agents and was declassified by the Pentagon earlier this decade.

The military also experimented with napalm, depleted uranium and Agent Orange, besides the millions of pounds of ordnance that Navy aircraft and ships dropped annually on Vieques.

A cleanup began in 2005 to clear thousands of unexploded munitions from the former training range site that is now a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge, and the island has placed new emphasis on tourism.

The Mississippi attorney for the plaintiffs in the Vieques lawsuit, John Eaves Jr., said Marrero's account is crucial to understanding the legacy of contamination.

"Sgt. Marrero's testimony really lets me know how much more investigation and research is needed in order to establish what was dropped on the island and what needs to be done to remedy that, so people on the island can start to rebuild their lives," Eaves said.

The lawsuit has been challenged on national security grounds by the federal government, which argues it should be dismissed because the U.S. had sovereign immunity in Vieques. The Navy and the Justice Department declined to discuss

the lawsuit or Marrero's claims.

The main evidence for Navy critics is a 2004 study by a former Puerto Rico health minister that found the cancer rate was 27 percent higher for people on Vieques than the Puerto Rican mainland. However, the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry used its own research to conclude in 2003 there was essentially no health risk from the bombing range.

The agency, which is part of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is conducting a new review requested in April by Congressman Steve Rothman, D-N.J. But islanders have their doubts.

Arturo Massol, a local scientist, said he and others invited to consult on the agency review fear it will be a whitewash, allowing the federal government to downplay the health risk.

"It is up to them to do it right," said Massol, a biologist at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez.

Meanwhile, Marrero has a 2006 report from a Department of Veterans Affairs doctor in Washington who linked his symptoms to exposure to "noxious substances" at Camp Garcia, but he said a review board has denied his requests to formally acknowledge the connection.

While his veterans benefits cover his medical bills, the only service-related ailment the military acknowledges is a shoulder injury. He said if he dies from anything else, his wife won't get his pension.

"Maybe I am continuously still a test," Marrero said. "How long will a soldier last after being exposed to poison?"



BILL O'LEARY, THE WASHINGTON POST/LATP

German Ambassador Klaus Scharioth holds up one of two books returned Tuesday by Robert Thomas, 83, of Chula Vista, Calif., a World War II GI who took the rare volumes from a German salt mine where the nation's national treasures were stored in the final days of the war.

Vet returns rare books he took from Germany

By MICHAEL E. RUANE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Robert Thomas, 83, breezed into the National Archives on Tuesday with a smile on his face, a white hankie peeking out of his suit coat pocket and an old briefcase containing the two rare books he filched in Germany 64 years ago.

He was a World War II GI then, fresh from the horrors of combat. He had blundered into one of the notorious salt mines where the Germans stashed their national treasures. This one contained books. Millions and millions of books from institutions across Germany.

Thomas poked around, saw two that looked old and took them.

Now, a lifetime later, in an ornate room with a fireplace and two chandeliers, and the German ambassador looking on, the retired optometrist from Chula Vista, Calif., was returning them.

Everyone seemed happy. Thomas, a widower with two hearing aids who still has a touch of the brash and cheerful GI about him, said he acted because "it was the right thing to do."

He hadn't been bothered that much by keeping the books all those years. Other things haunted him more — such as the German soldier who looked like a child

Thomas had shot one day in a bunker along the Siegfried Line.

"I've had these books since I was 18 years old," he told a group of officials from the archives as he removed the plastic wrap covering the two boxes in an anteroom before the ceremony. "I'm relieved, for one. I wanted to return them to the original owners, but I had no clue where to start."

The National Archives was delighted to facilitate the return. Senior archivist Greg Bradsher, whom Thomas had contacted last spring, researched the books, and urged Thomas to return them.

German Ambassador Klaus Scharioth said the 16th-century volumes date to the dawn of the Protestant Reformation when Germany was the book publishing center of the world.

One of the books, written in Latin and published in 1593 by legal scholar Johannes Borcholt, is a commentary on Roman law, Scharioth said. The other, written in German and published in 1578, dealt with court administration in the Duchy of Prussia.

Both books are small and thick. Thomas said he kept them in two old cardboard boxes — one of which had long ago contained shaving lotion. He said he never read the books but had kept them in cool, dry, safe places in his

home.

Asked about the books, Scharioth said: "He probably had no idea that this was valuable. He just thought it was a souvenir. ... You do that in youthful spirit."

"I think it's great that he thought about it a second time and came to the conclusion that these books belonged to someone."

Black vets share memories and pride at 'Buffalo' reunion

By YAMICHE ALCINDOR
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Joseph Hairston enlisted in the Army in 1940 as an 18-year-old and still remembers the cold stares and disgusted gazes of his white commanding officers.

Hairston, 87, served in the 599th Field Artillery Battalion and became one of the Army's first black commissioned officers. He deployed to Italy in 1944 and, like other black soldiers, ate, slept and trained separately from white soldiers.

Even so, Hairston remained in the Army and went on to serve in Korea. He retired after 20 years.

"I believe in my country," Hairston said. "As bad as the past has been, there's nowhere else I want to be."

Hairston is a Buffalo soldier, one of thousands of blacks who served in a segregated U.S. Army during World War II. This past weekend in Silver Spring, Md., Hairston joined dozens of other Buffalo soldiers at the annual reunion hosted by the Washington-based 92nd Infantry Division (Buffalo) Association, founded in 1982 as a means of preserving the division's history.

The 92nd was formed with black soldiers during World War I and reactivated during World War II. The nickname traces to the one given black soldiers who fought in the 19th-century wars on the western frontier.

Some of the veterans at the Sil-

ver Spring reunion slowly walked around the room, canes in hand, greeting their old friends.

Others sat in their wheelchairs, telling stories. The men, some of whom traveled from Ohio, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, are well into their 80s and 90s. An 84-year-old in this group ranks as a "youngster."

Time is thinning their ranks. Nearly a decade ago, a teacher told Albert Burke's granddaughter that all the Buffalo soldiers were dead. The little girl knew better.

"She took me to school with her one day to show her teacher that there were live Buffalo soldiers," Burke, 89, recalled.

As Burke reminisced, his eyes filled with tears. He wonders, when they are all dead, whether anyone will remember the Buffalo soldiers' sacrifice in the face of discrimination and racism.

Hairston, the officer, and his wife, Anna, have lived in Washington for more than 50 years. He sits on the boards of more than a dozen nonprofit organizations and is actively involved in neighborhood issues.

A religious man, he said his faith and teachings of the Bible help him to put the past behind him.

"Some people want to emphasize how bad it was, but I want to emphasize how good it is now," Hairston said.

With the members of the Buffalo Division getting older, the association has opened membership to anyone interested in the group's history.

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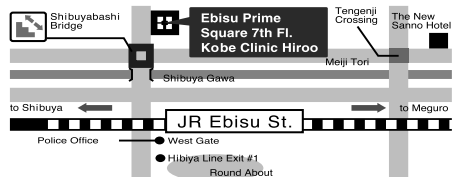
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Former Marine accused of shooting at police

LYNN, Ind. — A former Marine who served in Iraq has been charged with three counts of attempted murder of a police officer after firing on police.

Authorities said Andrew Ward, 26, of rural Lynn fired four shotgun blasts at three officers Friday night at a farmhouse. No officers were hurt.

After that weapon and another malfunctioned, officers used a stun gun to subdue Ward. He was held without bond Sunday. He also faces preliminary charges of criminal recklessness, battery and intimidation.

From The Associated Press

M-ATVs are tested in Afghanistan

By DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — The new lighter all-terrain vehicle MRAPs gave them a thrill when officers on Sunday test-drove the first ones to arrive in the war zone, zipping up and down inclines that the larger more cumbersome predecessors struggle to navigate.

But the bomb-resistant M-ATV, or Mine Resistant Ambush Protected ATV, is meeting with some skepticism.

It is designed with the same V-shaped hull that disperses the blast of a road-planted bomb, making "Thank God for the MRAP" a near-constant refrain among troops on the front lines. It answers the challenge of the clunkier MRAP that cannot navigate the more mountainous and off-road terrain of much of the Afghan battlefield.

But a senior counter improvised explosives device commander questioned whether the entire premise of the lighter vehicle mitigated some of its benefits because weight is part of what makes the MRAP so resistant to the bombs.

"It's been tested back in the States," said Lt. Col. Brennan Phillips, commander of Task Force Paladin East, which supports the 82nd Airborne in eastern Afghanistan to counter the



DIANNA CAHN/Stars and Stripes

A soldier checks out the new Mine Resistant Ambush Protected all-terrain vehicle that is touted as a good alternative to the cumbersome MRAP currently being used. The M-ATV, which has the same V-shaped hull, is designed to allow easier maneuverability than the heavier MRAPs, but some question whether they will be as effective at saving lives.

explosives threat. "It's untested on the battlefield."

Still, the vehicle, which weighs at least 16 tons, is far more comfortable and has suspended seats and padding so soldiers' feet don't absorb the brunt of a buried bomb blast.

The smaller M-ATV is not as alienating to the Afghan population as the hulking MRAPs now on the ground, an important element in a counter-insurgency war.

And it can maneuver.

"It makes me miss my jeep back home," said Maj. David Klahn,

Paladin East executive officer, who test-drove the M-ATV.

The first batch of M-ATVs arrived in Afghanistan on Oct. 1. There are now seven at Bagram and more are on the way.

E-mail Dianna Cahn at: cahnd@stripes.osd.mil

Afghan quits vote review

The Associated Press

KABUL — One of the two Afghans on a U.N.-backed commission looking into vote fraud in the August presidential election resigned Monday, citing interference by foreigners. Officials acknowledged that errors and miscommunication have plagued the investigation into alleged cheating in the ballot.

Once the election results become clear, President Barack Obama is expected to complete a review of Afghan strategy and decide whether to accept a recommendation by his top commander here, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, for up to 40,000 more troops.

The panel's rulings on how many votes to throw out will determine whether the vote goes to a runoff between President Hamid Karzai and former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah. Preliminary results show Karzai winning with about 54 percent.

In announcing his resignation from the commission, Maulavi Mustafa Barakzai alleged that the three foreigners on the panel — one American, one Canadian and one Dutch national — were "making all decisions on their own" without consultation.

The complaints commission rejected the allegation.

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IN THE WORLD

Report: N. Korea fires 5 short-range missiles

By HYUNG-JIN KIM

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea reportedly test-launched five short-range missiles Monday in what analysts said was an attempt to improve its bargaining position ahead of possible talks with the United States.

North Korea has recently reached out to the U.S. and South Korea following months of tension over its nuclear and missile tests earlier this year. Leader Kim Jong Il told visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao last week that his government might return to stalled six-nation negotiations on its nuclear program depending on the outcome of direct talks it seeks with the United States.

Washington has said it is considering holding talks with North Korea as part of efforts to restart the six-party negotiations.

The missile launches off North Korea's east coast were the first by the communist nation since it test-fired seven missiles in early July, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported.

Yonhap, citing a South Korean official it did not identify, said the KN-02 surface-to-surface missiles were fired from mobile launch pads and had a range of up to 75 miles. It said North Korea launched two missiles in the morning and three more in the afternoon.

South Korea's Defense Ministry and National Intelligence Service — the country's main spy agency — said they could not confirm the reports.

In Belfast, U.S. Secretary of State Hill-



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

South Koreans at a Seoul train station watch a televised report of North Korea's missile test on Monday. North Korea fired five short-range missiles off its east coast on Monday, a news report said, even as South Korea proposed working-level talks with its communist neighbor.

ary Rodham Clinton said Monday that American efforts to resume the nuclear talks with North Korea will proceed despite the new tests.

"Our goal remains the same," she told reporters after a meeting with Northern Irish business leaders. "Our consultations with our partners and our allies continues unabated. It is unaffected by the behavior of North Korea."

Clinton was to fly later to Moscow to meet with Russian leaders on a variety of issues, including nuclear reduction concerns.

South Korea's YTN television network carried a report similar to Yonhap's. It quoted an unidentified government source as saying North Korea had announced a no-sail zone in areas off the country's east and west coasts for Oct. 10-20 — an apparent indication the country could carry out

more missile tests.

The reported launches appeared to be aimed at displaying North Korea's missile capability to bolster its negotiating hand ahead of talks with the U.S. and other countries to wrest more concessions, said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University.

Yang Moo-jin, a professor at Seoul's University of North Korean Studies, agreed and added that North Korea was unlikely to take more drastic steps such as its April long-range rocket test or May nuclear test.

Earlier Monday, South Korea proposed two sets of working-level talks with the North.

The South proposed that officials from both sides meet Wednesday to discuss how to prevent floods in a border river and that Red Cross officials meet separately on Friday to discuss reunions of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.

However, the Unification Ministry said South Korea has no plan to resume high-level talks with the North.

Yang, the analyst, said the missile tests were not related to South Korea's proposals, since the announcement of the no-sail zone showed the launches were planned in advance.

Ties between the two Koreas soured after conservative South Korean President Lee Myung-bak took office early last year with a pledge to get tough with the North's government. Tensions further heightened after North Korea conducted its long-range rocket and nuclear tests.

Interpol: World criminals leaving police far behind

By VIJAY JOSHI

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Transnational crime syndicates are becoming stronger by exploiting technology, forging links with one another and taking advantage of insufficient coordination among the world's police forces, officials at an Interpol conference said Monday.

Delegates warned that law enforcement agencies must urgently boost the sharing of intelligence to fight criminals, who are increasingly in cahoots with terrorist networks including al-Qaida.

"It is fair to say that criminals are ahead of governments in exploiting the most advanced tools of globalization," such as international travel, banking and trade, U.S. Deputy Attorney General David Ogden said.

"Criminals are at the most advanced stage of globalization," Ogden told The Associated Press

on the sidelines of the conference organized by the United Nations and Interpol. "There is no question that we are behind, and the power of these international criminals has grown."

By one estimate, organized crime today comprises up to 15 percent of the global gross domestic product, Ogden said.

The Lyon, France-based Interpol was created in 1923 and is the world's largest international police organization, with 187 member countries. It facilitates cross-border police cooperation and focuses on terrorism, organized crime and the trafficking of drugs, weapons and humans.

But it appears Interpol is behind in the fight against crime, thanks to insufficient cooperation among countries.

Part of the problem is corruption of police departments in many countries. Because of their shaky reputations, other countries are reluctant to share infor-

mation with them.

"In order to share information you have to have confidence that it won't be misused," Ogden said.

Also, various law enforcement agencies — even within the same country — suffer from rivalries, resulting in information not being disseminated.

Examples of transnational crimes abound. Ogden cited an emblematic case disclosed last year — a racketeering enterprise in Romania that had joined forces with criminals around the world, including street gangs in Los Angeles, to use the Internet to defraud thousands of people and hundreds of financial institutions.

Those charged in the case operated from locations in the Canada, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania and United States and were citizens or permanent residents of Cambodia, Mexico, Pakistan, Romania, the United States and Vietnam.

Earlier Monday, Pakistani In-

terior Minister Rehman Malik drew the attention of the growing synergy among terrorism, drug trafficking, money laundering and cybercrime.

Pakistan, a front-line state in the fight against the Taliban and al-Qaida terrorists, has experienced all the crimes firsthand, said Malik, warning that they can quickly spread beyond its borders if not tackled jointly by the international community.

"Terrorists have no boundaries, no religion," he said. "This is the time we have to sit together and put our heads together. The cooperation needs to be even more effective."

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who opened the four-day conference, said that while globalization may have brought untold benefits to countries, it has also made crime global.

"When good gains a foot, evil adds a yard. As you upgrade your

knowledge, skills and equipment, you can be sure that criminals are doing the same," he said.

Also Monday, Interpol and the U.N. agreed to increase the role of the police in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations. An action plan to fulfill that aim would be drafted in the next 12 years, a statement said.

Interpol's huge databases including names of criminals, fingerprints, DNA profiles, stolen passports and stolen vehicles make the organization "an essential partner for police peacekeepers," Interpol Secretary-General Ronald K. Noble said.

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2 Americans win Nobel Prize in economics

BY KARL RITTER
AND MATT MOORE
The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Americans Elinor Ostrom and Oliver Williamson won the Nobel economics prize on Monday for their analyses of economic governance — the rules by which people exercise authority in companies and economic systems.

Ostrom was the first woman to win Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences since it was founded in 1968, and the fifth woman to win a Nobel award this year — a record for the prestigious honors.

It was also an exceptionally strong year for the United States, with 11 American citizens — some of them with dual nationality — among the 13 Nobel winners,

including President Barack Obama, who won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday.

The academy said over the past three decades, the work done by Ostrom and Williamson had “advanced economic governance research from the fringe to the forefront of scientific attention.”

It said their research showed that economic analysis can shed light on most forms of social organization.

Issues of governance have been at the heart of the ongoing world economic crisis. The failure by boards of directors, for instance, to police excessive compensation, or prevent bonuses that reward excessive risk taking, can be considered a corporate governance issue.

Ostrom, working out of Indiana University's Workshop in Political Theory

and Policy Analysis, devoted her career to studying the interaction of people and natural resources.

Bucking common theory, she demonstrated how common resources can be successfully managed by groups using it, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Williamson, who is at the Walter A. Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, was cited for his studies on how organizations — including companies — are structured and how that affects the cost of doing business.

Ostrom told the academy by telephone that she was surprised by their choice.

“There are many, many people who have struggled mightily and to be chosen for this prize is a great honor,” she said.

“I’m still a little bit in shock.”



Ostrom



Williamson

Williamson, 77, said he was “gratified” by the honor.

“One of the benefits I think that will accrue, or at least I hope will accrue, is that organizations will play a more prominent role in the study of economic activity in the near future,” he said.

More coffins sent to the Philippines

BY AARON FAVILA
The Associated Press

BAGUIO, Philippines — Authorities sent more than 200 coffins Monday to the typhoon-battered northern Philippines for the grim task of burying the storm's victims, including a family of eight whose house was buried under a torrent of mud.

The nationwide death toll from landslides and flooding stood at more than 600 since back-to-back storms started pounding the northern Philippines on Sept. 26. Hundreds of thousands are still displaced, and the damage from the worst flooding in 40 years has run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

The death toll was so high that some areas ran out of coffins. More than 200 wooden caskets assembled in neighboring provinces were expected in Baguio, where more funerals were planned, said regional disaster-relief director Olive Luces.

Baguio city, in the heart of the Cordillera mountain range where at least 277 people died, organized a burial for a family of eight, including six children, whose house along Marcos Highway was pinned down by other houses that tumbled down a mountainside late Thursday.

“I am saddened by what happened,” said Mildred Ligos, a cousin of Leonora Pinol Picar, who died with her husband and their children aged 1 to 11. She said she hadn't seen her cousin in years because they lived in different areas.

“And then we met again only now.”

Flooding and mudslides had blocked three key roads to the area, isolating the upland region for three days.

Many international tourists were among those stranded.

Gasoline was still in short supply and panic buying of canned goods emptied several stores in Baguio city.



AARON FAVILA/AP

Filipinos carry a coffin Monday during mass burial for landslide victims at a cemetery in Baguio city, northern Philippines. Recent storms buried hundreds of people and washed away villages.

But the situation was improving after four twin-rotor U.S. Marine CH-46 helicopters flew in eight tons of supplies Sunday. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo also came by helicopter and ordered officials to hasten efforts to reopen the roads.

One was reopened Sunday, but only partly, allowing light vehicles to pass.

Emirates court convicts U.S. man on terror charges

The Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — The United Arab Emirates' highest court convicted an American citizen Monday on terrorism-related charges amid claims that torture was used to extract a confession.

The court sentenced Naji Hamdan to 18 months in prison, but he should be freed soon because the sentence counts time served and he was detained last year. There are no appeals to verdicts by the UAE's Federal Supreme Court.

Hamdan, an American of Lebanese origin, faced three terrorism-related charges, including having ties with an al-Qaida group in Iraq. The court's chief justice, Khalifa al-Muhairi, gave no details on his decision such as whether the 43-year-old Hamdan was convicted of all three charges.

Hamdan had denied the accusations.

“I’m disappointed because I was not acquitted,” Hamdan said as he was led away by security forces after the verdict.

Hamdan's lawyer, Abdul Khader al-Haithami, claims his client suffered torture and threats in detention and was forced to sign a confession “to whatever they wanted to hear.”

Rights groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union, also have accused U.S. authorities of pushing the case in the Emir-

Naji Hamdan said the FBI began questioning him about whether he had terrorist ties in 1999, and he decided to move back to the Middle East in 2006.

ates because they lacked enough evidence for American courts.

The ACLU asked a U.S. court to press for a halt to the case, but a U.S. judge ruled in August that there was no authority to interfere in a foreign criminal prosecution.

Hamdan was arrested in the UAE in August 2008 and charged in June 2009 with supporting terrorism, working with terrorist organizations and being a member of a terrorist group. The state prosecutor claimed Hamdan had ties with a group backed by al-Qaida in Iraq.

He said the FBI began questioning him about whether he had terrorist ties in 1999, and he eventually decided to move his family back to the Middle East in 2006.

He is expected to be deported by UAE authorities after he is released from prison.



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STARS AND STRIPES

Clinton appeals for unity during Ireland address

BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK
The Associated Press

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton urged the rival leaders of Northern Ireland's power-sharing government Monday to keep making their awkward coalition work for the sake of lasting peace.

In an address to the Northern Ireland Assembly, with Irish Catholics to her left and British Protestants to her right, Clinton said they should take the next critical step in cooperation — running the police and justice system together — as the best way to defeat Irish Republican Army dissidents still plotting bloodshed. Protestant leaders are blocking the move.

Clinton told a hushed, packed chamber in Stormont Parliamentary Building that IRA dissidents were "looking to seize any opportunity to undermine the process and destabilize this government. Now they are watching this assembly for signs of uncertainty or

internal disagreement."

"They want to derail your confidence. And though they are small in number, their thuggish tactics and destructive ambitions threaten the security of every family in Northern Ireland," she said.

Almost all of the 108 members of the assembly applauded Clinton's address. But a few backbenchers from the major Protestant-backed party, the Democratic Unionists, folded their arms instead and two senior figures, William McCrea and Gregory Campbell, left the chamber during the ovation.

That reflected Protestant irritation at being told what to do by outsiders, a point that Democratic Unionist officials said they had made earlier to Clinton.

Clinton conceded this sensitivity in an unscripted addition to her address. "We know what it means to be supportive. And we also know what it means to meddle," she said, emphasizing that the U.S. sought to do the former, not the latter.



PETER MORRISON/AP

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks to business leaders and members of the media at Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on Monday. Clinton earlier addressed the Northern Ireland Assembly, warning that dissidents are still looking for signs of internal disagreement to unsettle the power-sharing government.

But Clinton also told both sides' politicians, in another unscripted addition, that they bore a special responsibility to break down walls of segregation that literally still scar Belfast.

Clinton concluded the Northern Ireland part of her European tour with visits to Belfast City Hall

and nearby Queen's University where she met Northern Ireland business leaders seeking U.S. investment.

There she said a quick resolution to the transfer of justice powers would bring economic benefits to the territory. "I think it goes hand in hand," she said.

India test-fires nuclear-capable missile

NEW DELHI — India successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable missile Monday with a range of 220 miles, a defense ministry statement said.

Monday's test was considered routine and unlikely to aggravate tensions with longtime rival Pakistan.

The surface-to-surface missile, "Prithvi-II" (Earth), was fired twice from a range in Chandipur in the eastern state of Orissa, the statement added.

The Indian army already has inducted a shorter version of the missile, "Prithvi-I," with a range of 95 miles. It can carry both conventional and nuclear warheads.

Intense blaze burns Sao Paulo slum

SAO PAULO — An intense fire broke out Sunday in a slum in South America's largest city, sending residents running across rooftops to escape the flames.

There were no immediate reports of deaths in Diogo Pires, a small shantytown in western Sao Paulo that is home to about 300 families.

Television broadcasts showed flames leaping 65 feet into the air as some residents fled and others helped firefighters battle the blaze with hoses and buckets of water.

Two hours after it began, firefighters managed to contain the flames to an area about a square half-mile.

China may extend fines in drunken driving cases

BEIJING — China has proposed expanding a nationwide campaign against drunken drivers to include penalties against their passengers.

The proposal released by China's Ministry of Public Security over the weekend calls for fines for passengers riding in cars with a drunk driver and increased jail time for repeat drunken drivers, the official China Daily newspaper reported Monday.

No details were given as to how the law would be implemented. Calls to the Ministry of Public Security rang unanswered early Monday.

The plan follows a two-month crackdown on drunken driving that included road blocks, heftier fines, 15-day jail terms and six-month license suspensions.

Malaysia footing bill to rekindle couples' flame

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — A Malaysian state government says it plans to offer free honeymoons to save the marriages of couples who are on the brink of divorce.

Ashaari Idris, a government official in northern Terengganu state, said troubled couples will be allowed to spend two nights at the state's scenic islands or beach resorts to help them rekindle their romance under a "Second Honeymoon" program.

Ashaari said the state government hopes to launch the plan soon "to resolve marital problems and to create models of exemplary families."

He said Monday that couples who enroll in the program must also undergo counseling.

From The Associated Press

Bomb explodes outside Italian army barracks

BY COLLEEN BARRY
The Associated Press

MILAN — A Libyan man set off a small bomb while trying to enter an army barracks in Milan on Monday, seriously injuring himself and slightly wounding the guard who stopped him, Italian law enforcement officials said.

The man attempted to enter the barracks on foot, taking advantage of the main gate opening to allow an authorized car through, said Col. Giuseppe Affini, a chief spokesman for the army in the Lombardy region that includes Milan.

"He was immediately blocked by the guard, who yelled 'Halt.' He exploded the briefcase that he was holding," Affini said.

Authorities said the man appeared to be acting alone, and Affini denied initial media reports that the man had shouted "Out of Afghanistan!" He said the man had shouted something in Arabic, but that it was not clear what.

Some of the 2,800 troops that Italy has deployed in Afghanistan are based in the army barracks that was targeted, Affini said.

"It is a serious incident from all points of view, but it should not be exaggerated," Armando Spataro, a Milan prosecutor, said at a news conference.

The explosives caused little damage to the structure "which



GIUSEPPE ARESU/AP

An Italian official inspects the entrance of the Santa Barbara army barracks in Milan after a Libyan man allegedly set off an explosive device on Monday, Italian police said.

demonstrates that there was not a significant quantity of explosives," Spataro said. The guard, 20, was lightly hurt and treated at the scene, Affini said.

"It seems like an isolated act," Francesco Rutelli, a lawmaker who heads a parliamentary committee that oversees secret services, told Radio 24.

The attacker was being treated at a hospital for injuries to his hand and his face, which were not life threatening, officials said.

Police, who identified the attacker as a 35-year-old Libyan with legal residence in Italy, were searching his apartment in Milan for clues as to the motive.

China court sentences 6 to death in July riots

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
The Associated Press

BEIJING — A court in China's far western Xinjiang region sentenced six men to death Monday for murder and other crimes committed during ethnic riots that killed nearly 200 people. A seventh man was given life imprisonment.

The sentences were the first for any of the scores of suspects arrested in the July rioting between Muslim Uighurs and members of the Han Chinese majority in the regional capital of Urumqi. It was China's worst communal violence in decades.

The verdicts appeared aimed at placating Han Chinese who have rallied in Urumqi calling for swift justice. An overseas Uighur activist, however, said they were only likely to exacerbate the ethnic tensions.

Xinjiang has been under heavy security since the strife, and state TV showed paramilitary troops in riot gear surrounding the courthouse Monday.

The official Xinhua News Agency said seven people were convicted of murder, and some also convicted of arson and robbery. The names of the convicted men appeared to identify them as Uighurs.

Public prosecutors presented witness testimony, autopsy re-

ports, crime scene video and other evidence during the trial attended by some 400 people.

Police have said hundreds of people were detained following the rioting in Urumqi that the government says killed 197 people and injured more than 1,700. State media has reported that 21 people — mostly Uighurs — have been indicted on charges including murder and arson.

The violence flared on July 5 after police broke up a protest by Uighur youths demanding an investigation into a deadly brawl between Han and Uighur workers at a toy factory thousands of miles away in southern China.

The Chinese government blames the rioting on overseas-based groups agitating for greater Uighur rights in Xinjiang but has presented no direct evidence.

Dilxat Raxit, spokesman for the Germany-based World Uighur Congress, called the verdicts flawed and said they would likely aggravate tensions in the region. The timing appeared to indicate that China wanted the matter closed prior to next month's visit by President Barack Obama, he said.

Monday's sentences came three days after a Chinese court in southern China sentenced a man to death for his role in the factory brawl that sparked the riots in Xinjiang.

IN THE STATES

Memo raises fears of health reform cost

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Supporters of President Barack Obama's drive to remake health care are pushing back against a dire report from the insurance industry warning of hefty new costs for consumers from the latest legislation.

"I really don't think it's worth the paper it's written on," AARP Executive Vice President John Rother told reporters Monday.

The study commissioned by America's Health Insurance Plans put the White House, congressional Democrats and their allies on the defensive on the eve of a criti-

cal vote in the Senate Finance Committee.

It marked a shift in strategy by the health insurance industry, which had been working for months behind the scenes to help shape health care legislation. With the Finance Committee set to vote Tuesday on a sweeping bill the industry fears could result in a loss of revenue, the insurers suddenly went on the attack, in dramatic fashion.

Late Sunday, AHIP sent reporters and its member companies a new accounting firm study that projects the legislation would add \$1,700 a year to the cost of family coverage in 2013, when most of the major pro-

visions in the bill would be in effect.

Premiums for a single person would go up by \$600 more than would be the case without the legislation, the PricewaterhouseCoopers analysis concluded in the study commissioned by the insurance group.

"Several major provisions in the current legislative proposal will cause health care costs to increase far faster and higher than they would under the current system," Karen Ignagni, the top industry lobbyist in Washington, wrote to insurance CEOs.

The industry said the cost increases result from new taxes and a weakening of the

penalties for failing to get insurance that would let Americans postpone getting coverage until they get sick.

Democrats and allies called the report biased. Health economist Len Nichols of the New America Foundation contended that the study failed to take into account the impact of subsidies that would help low- and middle-income people buy coverage.

"It was paid for by people who are not interested in an objective analysis of the truth but are interested in a particular point of view being inserted into the political process right now."

Schools teaching the darker side of Columbus

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Jeffrey Kolowith's kindergarten students read a poem about Christopher Columbus, take a journey to the New World on three paper ships and place the explorer's picture on a timeline through history.

Kolowith's students learn about the explorer's significance — though they also come away with a more nuanced picture of Columbus than the noble discoverer often portrayed in pop culture and legend.

"I talk about the situation where he didn't even realize where he was," Kolowith said. "And we talked about how he was very, very mean, very bossy."

Columbus' stature in U.S. classrooms has declined somewhat through the years, and

many districts were not planning to observe his namesake holiday on Monday. Although lessons vary, many teachers are trying to present a more balanced perspective of what happened after Columbus reached the Caribbean and the suffering of indigenous populations.

"The whole terminology has changed," said James Kracht, executive associate dean for academic affairs in the Texas A&M College of Education and Human Development.

"You don't hear people using the word 'discovery' anymore like they used to, 'Columbus discovers America.' Because how could he discover America if there were already people living here?"

In Texas, students start learning in the fifth grade about the "Columbian Exchange" — which consisted not only of gold, crops and goods shipped back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean, but diseases carried by settlers that decimated native populations.

In McDonald, Pa., 30 miles southwest of Pittsburgh, fourth-grade students at Fort Cherry Elementary put Columbus on trial this year — charging him with thievery and misrepresenting the Spanish crown. They found him guilty and sentenced him to life in prison.

"In their own verbiage, he was a bad guy," teacher Laurie Crawford said.

Of course, the perspective given varies across classrooms



Teacher Jeffrey Kolowith talks with his kindergarten class on Friday at Philip Shore School of the Arts in Tampa, Fla. The students were learning about the voyage of Christopher Columbus to the New World.

STEVE NESIUS/AP

and grades. Donna Sabis-Burns, a team leader with the U.S. Department of Education's School Support and Technology Program, surveyed teachers nationwide about the Columbus reading materials they used in class for her University of Florida dissertation.

She examined 62 picture books, and found the majority were outdated and contained inaccurate — and sometimes outright demeaning — depictions of the native Taino population.

The day is an especially sensitive issue in places with larger native American populations.

"We have a very large Alaska native population, so just

the whole Columbus being the founder of the United States [idea] doesn't sit well with a lot of people, myself included," said Paul Prussing, deputy director of Alaska's Division of Teaching and Learning Support.

Many recall decades ago when there was scant mention of indigenous groups in discussions about Columbus. Kracht remembers a picture in one of his fifth-grade textbooks that showed Columbus wading to shore with a huge flag and cross.

"The indigenous population was kind of waiting expectantly, almost with smiles on their faces," Kracht said.

"I wonder what this guy is

bringing us? Well, he's bringing us smallpox, for one thing, and none of us are going to live very long."

Crawford's Pennsylvania class dressed up as characters from the era, assigned roles for a mock trial and put Columbus on the stand. Out of a jury of 12 students, nine found him guilty of the charges.

"Every hero is somebody else's villain," said Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, a scholar and author of several books related to Columbus, including "1492: The Year the World Began."

"Heroism and villainy are just two sides of the same coin," he said.

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Dollar buys (Oct. 13)	£0.6608
British pound (Oct. 13)	\$1.64
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.5815
Canada (Dollar)	1.0333
China (Yuan)	6.8244
Denmark (Krone)	5.0327
Egypt (Pound)	5.4795
Euro	\$1.4796/0.6759
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7500
Hungary (Forint)	181.65
Israel (Shekel)	3.7232
Japan (Yen)	89.71
Kuwait (Dinar)	2.864
Norway (Krone)	5.6396
Philippines (Peso)	46.59
Poland (Zloty)	2.86
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3967
South Korea (Won)	1,164.50
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0251
Thailand (Baht)	33.31
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4618
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INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.06
30-year bond	4.22
Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press	

Suspect arrested in 1968 Pan Am hijacking

By CRISTIAN SALAZAR

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — More than four decades after he allegedly hijacked a jetliner for Kennedy International to Cuba, Luis Armando Pena Soltren was arrested at the same airport upon his return from exile, authorities said.

Pena Soltren, who was arrested Sunday after arriving on a flight from Havana, was expected to be arraigned Tuesday in Manhattan on a 1968 indictment. He was in custody Monday.

Authorities said the Cuban government authorized his departure from Cuba and was aware of his desire to return voluntarily.

Pena Soltren and two accomplices used weapons hidden in a diaper bag to hijack the Pan Am flight on Nov. 24, 1968, authorities said.

"As the 1968 charges allege, he terrorized dozens of passengers when he and his cohorts wielded pistols and knives to hijack Pan American Flight 281," U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said in a statement Sunday.

Pena Soltren, 66, had arranged his return with the FBI and State Department because he wanted to see his wife and other family members, who lived in either Puerto Rico or Florida, an FBI spokesman told The New York Times.

Authorities would not elaborate on other

details of his surrender, including whether he had any relatives in the New York area.

Dozens of U.S. flights were hijacked and diverted to Cuba in the 1960s.

Some of the flights were hijacked by self-described radical leftists, fugitives seeking asylum on the Caribbean island or criminals scheming to extort money from the U.S. government or the airlines.

Pan Am Flight 281 was commandeered by three men who forced their way into the cabin and ordered the crew to fly to the Cuban capital, according to a criminal complaint.

Two of the men were arrested in the mid-1970s and pleaded guilty to their roles in the skyjacking, prosecutors said.

EDUCATION

One study of Rhode Island teenagers found that 85 percent of teens got at least 10 hours of sleep a week less than they should.

School hours don't reflect sleep needs

BY VALERIE STRAUSS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON

It's 10:45 p.m. and the light is still on in your teenager's bedroom. Your child is not the slightest bit tired — but you know that waking him or her early for school the next morning will be torture.

It may be tempting to blame this behavior on computers, cellphones and coffee. In some cases, those are the prime reasons for nocturnal teen behavior.

But, researchers say, this late-to-bed and late-to-rise pattern is the way teenagers are biologically programmed — even though most school systems gloss over this when setting high school start times.

Some districts have respected the science enough to give teens more sleep-in time — and researchers have found a number of benefits, including improvements in attendance and daytime alertness and decreased depression.

But most school districts cite after-school sports and other activities, bus routes, and other scheduling issues as reasons for starting between 7 and 8 a.m.

As a result, the majority of teens don't get the 8 ½ to 9 ½ hours of sleep that experts say they should, according to the National Sleep Foundation. In fact, the average is about seven hours of sleep a night for teens.

Watch exhausted teens walk into their high school on any given morning, eyes half-closed with coffee cup in hand, and you can see the scope of the problem. One study of Rhode Island teenagers found that 85 percent of teens got at least 10 hours of sleep a week less than they should. A Drexel University study found that only 20 percent of 12- to 18-year-olds studied got the recommended sleep on school nights.

Researchers over the past decade have learned that a teen's body is different than those of

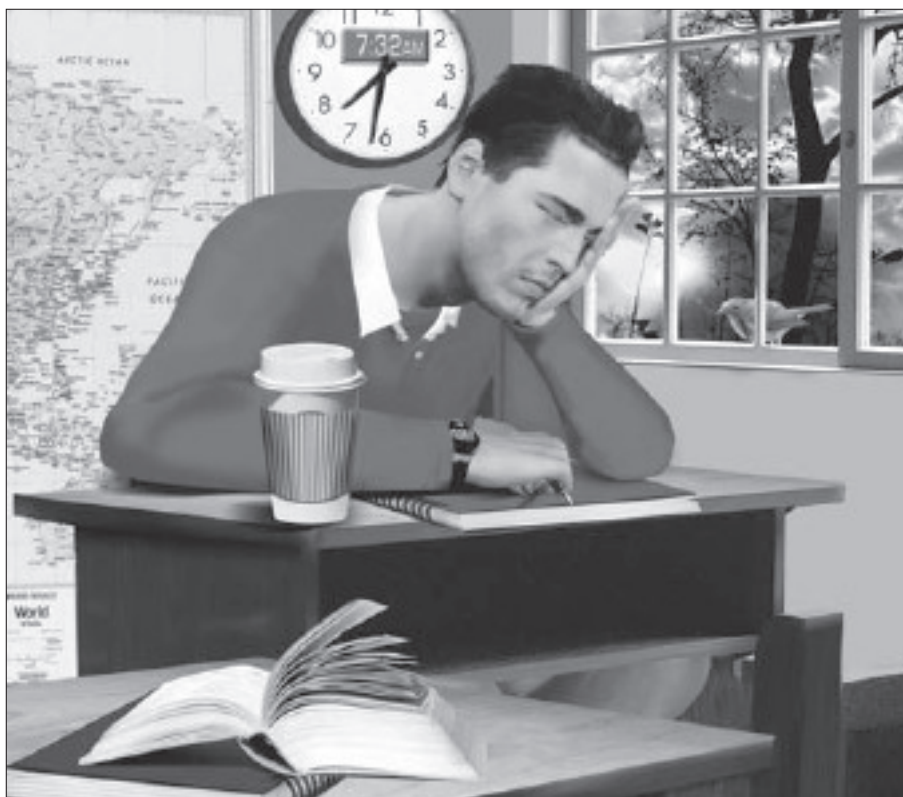


ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

younger and older people. Most teens can't easily fall asleep until about 11 p.m., experts say, and their brains stay in sleep mode until at least 8 a.m.

A study led by Brown University professor Mary Carskadon tested the saliva of teens, measuring the presence of the sleep-promoting hormone melatonin at different times of the day.

Carskadon, who teaches human behavior and is director of sleep research at E.P. Bradley Hospital in Rhode Island, found that the melatonin levels rise later at night than they do in children and adults — and

remain at a higher level later in the morning.

Why melatonin is secreted in the teenage brain from about 11 p.m. until about 8 a.m. the next morning is unclear, experts say.

But experts say they do know that the consequences of teen sleep deprivation are more serious than classrooms full of sleepy kids. Helene Emsellem, medical director of the Center for Sleep & Wake Disorders in Chevy Chase, Md., and author of "Snooze ... or Lose!" wrote in her book that there are physical, emotional, academic and behavioral effects:

a) Going without enough sleep can make a teen more likely to get sick. Why? Because the number of T-cells in the body — cells which help us stay healthy — falls by 30 percent to 40 percent.

b) Sleep-deprived teens get more headaches than those who don't.

c) Students who earn C's and below go to sleep later and have less regular sleep patterns than students who get better grades. Sleep affects learning and memory.

d) Sleep-deprived teens are more likely to use alcohol and

drugs than those who don't.

Some school systems around the country have taken heed of the research findings and moved to start high school at later times. Pioneers were two Minneapolis-area school districts — Edina, a suburban district which changed its start time from 7:20 to 8:30 a.m. in the 1990s, and then Minneapolis Public Schools, which changed the start time for thousands of high school students from 7:15 to 8:40 a.m. in the 1997-98 school year.

The effects were studied for several years by researchers at the University of Minnesota's Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement, led by director Kyla Wahlstrom.

They found that students were more alert and students reported higher grades (though how much higher is unclear). Meanwhile, some sports practices were shortened but sports continued, as did after-school jobs.

Since then more than 80 school districts have changed their start times, according to the sleep foundation, including the Arlington, Va., public schools, which gave high school students 45 extra minutes to sleep starting in 2001. No studies were done on the effects but students reported being more alert.

In Jessamine County in Kentucky, according to a case study by the sleep foundation, the school district swapped the starting times of elementary school with high school in 2003. Though young children have no biological problem going to sleep early and waking up early, elementary school started later than high school.

Before the change, high school started at 7:30 a.m., middle school at 7:40 a.m. and elementary school at 8:30 a.m.. Afterward, elementary school started at 8 a.m., middle school at 8:50 and high school at 8:40.

School officials said students quickly were more alert and focused on their studies.

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FACES

Forever in a hard place

Stand-up guy Chris Rock always looking to be loved

Chris Rock, one of the most successful comedians on the planet, is pretty much in constant pursuit of peace of mind. "I worry about every show. Every time there's a camera on, I worry about it," he says.

Promoting his latest movie, the comedy documentary "Good Hair," Rock got serious in an interview, addressing the perils of being funny. "You just don't take for granted that you are good. Not at this."

He's not just being modest. "I obsess. Yes, I'll admit that."

You might say he also should cop to neurotic.

"Somebody said the other day, 'Larry King likes you.' Dude, are you saying I'm not funny on the show? Forget 'like.'"

When it comes to his job — "I've got to be funny" — Rock is looking for full-blown love.

He goes into every video appearance, whether an interview on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" or an HBO special, thinking, "I can totally mess this up. I'm very conscious of that," he says.

Rock confesses he's not the funniest member of his family. At least not according to his younger daughter, Zarah, 5, who, out of nowhere, started rating people on their funniness. Rock says Zarah thinks her mom is twice as funny as her dad.

He does get points for trying.

For instance, for his last HBO special, Rock says he probably did 200 stand-up comedy club shows to prepare. "The average comic probably does 30 shows before he shoots a special. I normally do 150. ... Because I'm doing other things (like movies), I figure I've got less time to work on it than the younger guys, so let me work harder on it."

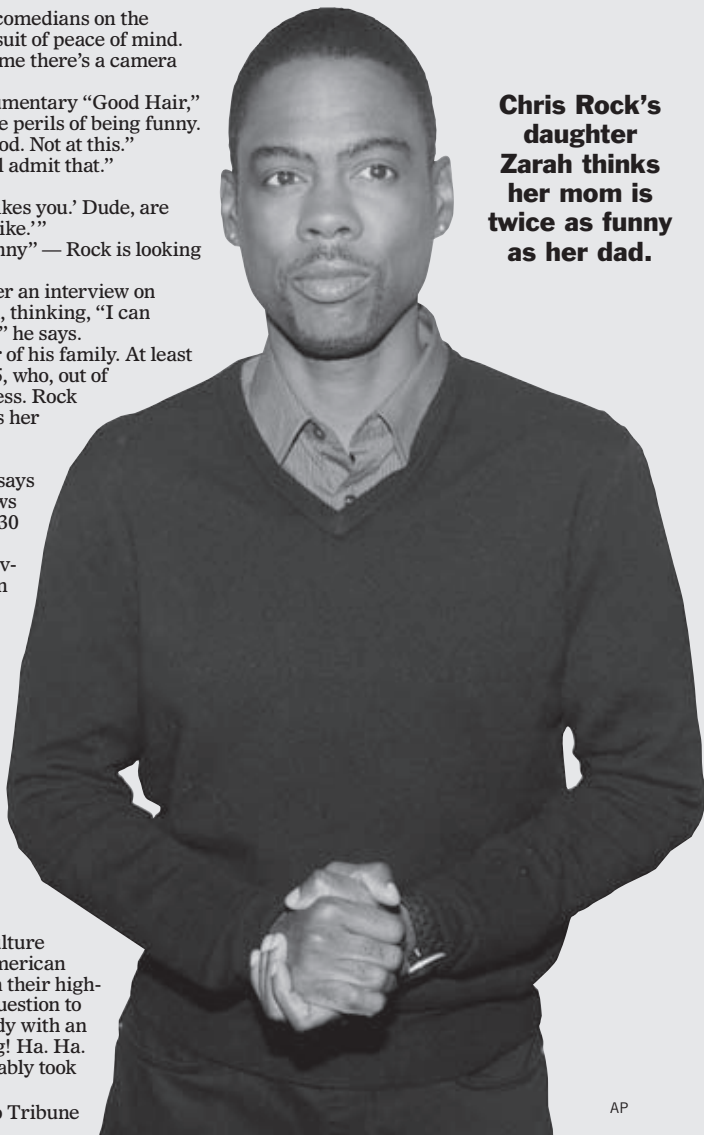
At 44, Rock is conscious that there always are younger comedians waiting to take his place in the funny firmament. "I see a new kid, I flinch a little bit. 'Hmmm. New kid.' But they say something funny and I fall in love with them."

"Jonah Hill is my favorite. I'd walk across any room to say hi to Jonah Hill. That kid is hysterical."

Time magazine once anointed Rock "the funniest man in America," but he says the minute a comedian starts to believe that kind of hype, well, "you're on VH1 doing a reality show."

He gives an example taken from his "Good Hair," movie, a riotous look at the black hair culture and industry. In it, Rock interviews African-American men about whether the women let them touch their high-cost hairdos during sex. (No!) It's an obvious question to ask Rock as he peddles his movie, and he's ready with an answer. "My wife doesn't let me touch anything! Ha. Ha. Ha. Big laugh throughout the audience. It probably took me four days to figure out the best response."

— Ellen Warren/Chicago Tribune



Chris Rock's daughter Zarah thinks her mom is twice as funny as her dad.



AP

Kellie Pickler: A blonde having fun.

Pickler, Swift swap guy advice on tour

When Kellie Pickler and best gal pal Taylor Swift get together, they rarely talk business. It's usually about boys and other girl stuff.

"We talk about everything," says the 23-year-old Pickler, the country artist who's turned out to be one of "American Idol's" most successful contestants. "We try not to talk so much about work because that consumes so much of our lives anyway."

This has been quite a year for Pickler. In June, she headlined her own concert tour.

"Didn't You Know How Much I Loved You," her latest single, is rocketing up the Billboard Country Music Charts.

Adding to her popularity, she and Swift toured together earlier in the year on the first leg of her Fearless Tour 2009.

Pickler and Swift have never tried to fix up each other, mainly because their types are so different.

"We do not have the same tastes in men. That's good. We don't have to worry about liking the same guy."

And what is Pickler's type?

"We both look for the same qualities — good guys who are respectful and understanding (of the singers' careers)."

"You have to find someone who is confident and secure in who they are."

Pickler dismisses tabloid reports that she and Kid Rock are an item. She classifies him as "a good friend" and "a very good businessman."

— Scripps Howard News Service



AP

Rod Blagojevich looks like he was born to scream, 'You're fired!'



AP

Limbaugh rushes to judgment.

Limbaugh to judge Miss America pageant

The Miss America Organization says Rush Limbaugh will be one of seven judges for the 2010 pageant in Las Vegas on Jan. 30.

President and CEO Art McMaster says the Miss America Organization is thrilled to have Limbaugh as a judge.

— The Associated Press

Humor, fear big at the box office

"Swingers" co-stars Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau buddied up for the weekend's top movie as "Couples Retreat" debuted with \$35.3 million, while the micro-budgeted fright flick "Paranormal Activity" leaped into the top 10.

Shot for a reported \$15,000, "Paranormal Activity" came in at No. 5 with \$7.1 million as distributor Paramount

expanded it into daylong release after two weeks of midnight-only screenings.

Including its take from midnight screenings the previous two weeks, "Paranormal Activity" has grossed \$8.3 million.

"Zombieland," No. 1 the previous weekend, slipped to second place with \$15 million, raising its total to \$47.8 million.

— The Associated Press

Trump's show gets Blago

Out of work since he was impeached by Illinois lawmakers, Rod Blagojevich is taking his job search to TV's toughest boss — Donald Trump.

A person close to Blagojevich says the former Illinois governor will make an appearance on Trump's "The Celebrity Apprentice" reality television show. The source said he would be paid, but it was unclear if he would be one of the show's competitors.

— The Associated Press



AP

New Jackson single released

Michael Jackson has returned to the airwaves with a new song — the first from an upcoming documentary on the troubled superstar.

It is the first new song by Jackson to be released since his sudden death in Los Angeles on June 25.

The singer, who had not released new material in years,

sounds confident on the song, which features his trademark vocal style with lush backing vocals by his brothers, the Jacksons.

The song will also be part of a two-disc CD set that will accompany the movie in what is expected to be a worldwide marketing blitz.

— The Associated Press



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Derreck Kayongo displays bars of soap stored in the basement of his Lawrenceville, Ga., home. He intends to send them to people in Uganda to help curb disease there.

Cleaning up Uganda

By DIONNE WALKER
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Nearly two decades after he arrived in the United States, Ugandan Derreck Kayongo is still bowled over by one subtle display of American wealth: the endless array of soaps available in stores.

In his African homeland, the cost of soap is out of reach for many, often with tragic consequences. In 2004, the World Health Organization found roughly 15 percent of deaths among Ugandan children under age 5 resulted from diarrheal diseases, many of which could be prevented through hand sanitation.

Now America's bountiful soap bars have

prompted Kayongo to launch the Global Soap Project, an effort to help his country's poorest — one used bar of hotel soap at a time.

An Atlanta-based anti-poverty advocate, Kayongo has collected several tons of lightly used soap bars under a plan to melt them down, sterilize them and reshape the soap for shipment to refugees in Uganda to help curb disease.

For Uganda's destitute, soap is a luxury.

"Most people find it very hard to spend money on something like soap, which could actually help them prevent diseases," Kayongo said. A bar of soap can run 500 Ugandan shillings — about 10 American cents — on a continent where many refugees have a dollar to live on daily.

Man finds a way to cut country's ills one bar of soap at a time

Kayongo said soaps will be separated by hotel brand and gently washed to remove makeup and other surface dirt. Next, bars will go into a high-temperature oven where they will melt and transform into a soapy, sterile, slurry. Kayongo said the mixture will go into molds to harden and emerge as large bars of soap.

"All it needs is just cleaning and re-melting and remodeling," he said.

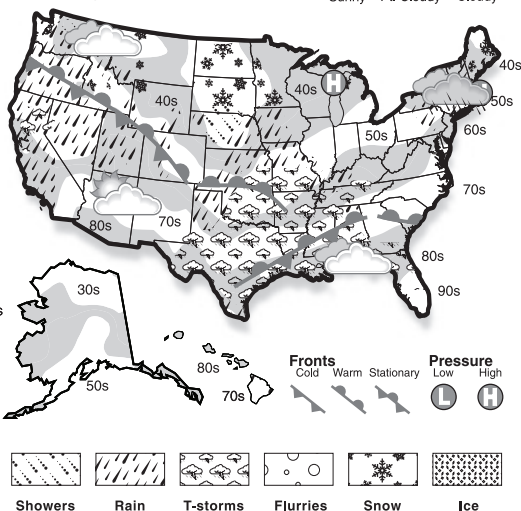
Patrick Maher, a consultant to the American Hotel & Lodging Association, said hotels usually throw away used soap. But he said nonprofits have begun stepping up to recycle soap for charitable purposes.

"It's one of the new things this year," Maher said.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Tuesday, Oct. 13



Wet In West, Cold In East

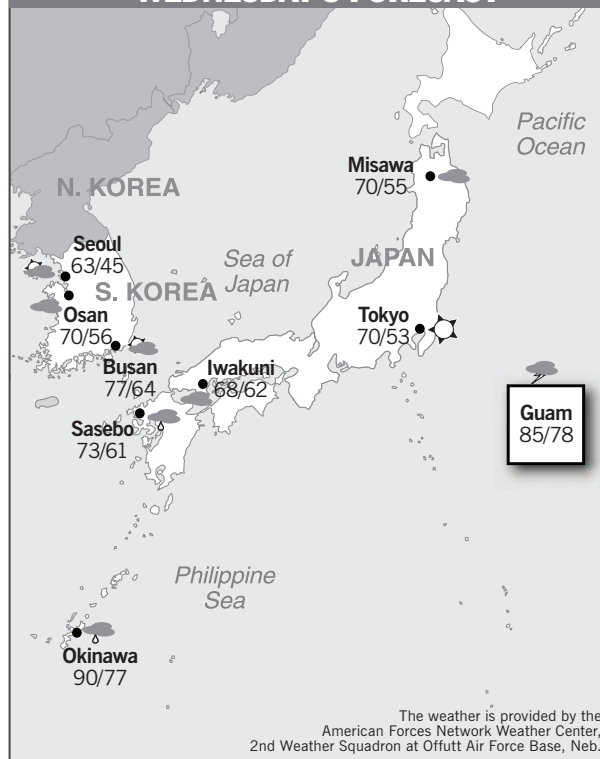
A potent storm will hit the West with numerous showers as energy from the system streams across the coast. Cold weather will engulf the eastern half of the nation, while waves of energy kick up precipitation in the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic.

Weather Underground • AP

Monday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Amsterdam	59	47	Rain	La Paz	66	32	Clr
Athens	77	53	Clr	Lima	69	60	Cldy
Auckland	59	42	Clr	Lisbon	86	66	Clr
Baghdad	96	68	Clr	London	60	50	Rain
Basra	101	75	Clr	Madrid	81	55	Clr
Bahrain	97	78	Clr	Managua	91	75	Clr
Bangkok	91	77	Rain	Manila	89	71	pc
Barbados	88	77	pc	Mecca	106	81	Clr
Barcelona	78	61	Clr	Melbourne	69	39	Rain
Beijing	65	51	Rain	Mexico City	75	53	pc
Beirut	85	71	Clr	Montevideo	61	50	Rain
Belgrade	65	55	Rain	Montreal	51	39	Rain
Berlin	50	46	pc	Moscow	44	26	pc
Bermuda	82	76	pc	Nairobi	82	55	pc
Bogota	68	50	Rain	Nassau	91	80	pc
Brasilia	85	66	pc	New Delhi	93	73	Clr
Brisbane	69	55	Rain	Nice	75	60	Clr
Brussels	59	51	Rain	Osaka	71	51	Clr
Bucharest	74	54	Cldy	Oslo	39	32	Rain
Budapest	64	50	Rain	Panama	94	76	Rain
Buenos Aires	67	57	Rain	Paris	60	51	Rain
Cairo	88	70	pc	Perth	63	47	Rain
Calgary	21	12	Snow	Prague	55	50	Rain
Caracas	91	79	Clr	Rio de Janeiro	78	64	pc
Colombo	86	75	Clr	Rome	73	59	Rain
Copenhagen	49	46	Rain	San Jose	87	68	pc
Dhahran	96	71	Clr	San Juan	90	80	Rain
Dhaka	89	77	Clr	San Salvador	87	69	Clr
Dili	95	68	Clr	Santiago	65	46	pc
Dubai	102	78	Clr	Sao Paulo	82	56	pc
Dublin	58	44	Rain	Sapporo	55	45	Rain
Frankfurt	57	50	Rain	Seoul	71	48	pc
Geneva	65	50	Rain	Singapore	91	74	pc
Guatemala	78	62	Rain	Sofia	77	53	Clr
Hanoi	88	77	Cldy	Stockholm	48	28	Rain
Harare	86	59	pc	Sydney	66	53	Rain
Havana	91	73	Clr	Taipei	75	73	Rain
Helsinki	44	23	Cldy	Tegucigalpa	85	62	Rain
Hong Kong	87	77	Rain	Tehran	79	68	pc
Islamabad	91	59	Clr	Tel Aviv	86	68	pc
Istanbul	71	61	Clr	Tokyo	75	57	Clr
Jakarta	92	76	Clr	Toronto	73	51	Clr
Jerusalem	86	68	pc	Turkey	51	37	Clr
Johannesburg	71	56	pc	Tunis	79	65	Rain
Kabul	75	41	Clr	Valletta	79	66	Rain
Kiev	59	43	Rain	Vancouver	54	36	pc
Kuala Lumpur	91	77	Rain	Vienna	63	50	Rain
Kuwait	99	69	Clr	Warsaw	50	44	Rain
				Zurich	61	51	Rain

WEDNESDAY'S FORECAST



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Tuesday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Abilene, Tex.	68	55	Cldy	Casper	52	21	Cldy	Erie	51	44	Cldy	Jacksonville	88	71	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	54	42	Cldy	Charleston, S.C.	78	65	Rain	Eugene	59	38	Rain	Juneau	49	28	Clr
Albany, N.Y.	51	39	Rain	Charleston, W.Va.	65	49	PCldy	Evansville	63	45	Cldy	Kansas City	53	38	Cldy
Albuquerque	74	51	PCldy	Charlotte, N.C.	74	50	PCldy	Fairbanks	54	36	PCldy	Key West	90	83	PCldy
Allentown, Pa.	62	46	Cldy	Chattanooga	73	53	Cldy	Fargo	41	24	Cldy	Knoxville	70	50	Cldy
Amarillo	59	44	Cldy	Cheyenne	44	27	Cldy	Flagstaff	59	37	PCldy	Lake Charles	85	72	Rain
Anchorage	48	41	Clr	Chicago	49	37	Cldy	Flint	53	37	Cldy	Lansing	50	37	PCldy
Asheville	72	47	PCldy	Cincinnati	63	46	PCldy	Fort Smith	61	57	Rain	Las Vegas	74	59	Cldy
Atlanta	78	57	Cldy	Cleveland	53	44	Cldy	Fort Wayne	57	41	PCldy	Lexington	63	46	PCldy
Atlantic City	69	49	Cldy	Colorado Springs	54	30	Cldy	Fresno	68	59	Rain	Lincoln	44	32	Cldy
Austin	83	70	Rain	Columbia, S.C.	77	59	Cldy	Goodland	43	29	Rain	Little Rock	66	58	Rain
Baltimore	69	52	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	82	63	Cldy	Grand Junction	70	41	Cldy	Los Angeles	69	58	Cldy
Baton Rouge	86	72	Rain	Columbus, Ohio	59	44	PCldy	Grand Rapids	52	37	PCldy	Louisville	66	48	PCldy
Billings	43	21	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	48	33	Rain	Great Falls	35	18	Cldy	Lubbock	65	52	Cldy
Birmingham	76	58	Cldy	Corpus Christi	87	76	Cldy	Green Bay	47	32	PCldy	Macon	83	60	Cldy
Bismarck	37	20	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	75	64	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	73	51	PCldy	Madison	46	30	PCldy
Boise	65	46	Cldy	Dayton	59	44	PCldy	Harrisburg	65	45	Cldy	Medford	63	46	Rain
Boston	56	44	Rain	Daytona Beach	90	71	PCldy	Hartford Spgflld	56	42	Rain	Memphis	67	57	Rain
Bridgeport	61	46	Cldy	Denver	50	27	Cldy	Helena	41	19	Cldy	Miami Beach	91	80	PCldy
Brownsville	90	74	Cldy	Des Moines	47	31	Cldy	Honolulu	86	72	Clr	Midland-Odessa	80	59	Cldy
Buffalo	46	39	Cldy	Detroit	57	41	Cldy	Houston	85	69	Cldy	Milwaukee	48	36	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	43	36	Rain	Duluth	42	26	PCldy	Huntsville	73	55	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	42	27	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	38	33	Rain	El Paso	83	60	PCldy	Indianapolis	60	42	PCldy	Missoula	40	16	Cldy
				Elkins	61	46	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	80	64	Rain	Mobile	86	70	Cldy

National temperature extremes
High: Mon., 95, Brookville, Fla.
Low: Mon., -10, Polebridge, Mont.



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ADDRESSES

U.S. MAIL: Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002
INTERNATIONAL MAIL: 23-17 Roppongi, 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo
106-0032, Japan
FAX: DSN 229-3132; civ (+81) (3) 3408-8936

E-MAIL: Readers Forum: letters@pstripes.osd.mil
Advertising: advertising@pstripes.osd.mil
Marketing: marketing@pstripes.osd.mil
Circulation: circulation@pstripes.osd.mil

CENTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350,
Washington DC 20045-1301.

Phone: DSN 312-763-0900 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0900.
Fax: (+1) (202) 761-0890

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Terry Leonard,
529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20045-1301.

Phone: DSN 312-763-0535 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0535.
E-mail: leonard.terry@pstripes.osd.mil

HOW TO CALL US

GENERAL MANAGER: John D. Panasiewicz,
tel DSN 229-3121; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3121
READERS' FORUM: tel DSN 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3166;
e-mail letters@pstripes.osd.mil
SPORTS: Dave Ormauer, tel DSN 645-7433; civ (+81) (98) 893-2702;
e-mail ormauerd@pstripes.osd.mil
For business, advertising and circulation numbers, turn to the
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NEWS BUREAU

JAPAN

Tokyo Editors: Thomas P. Skeen, Chris Carlson, Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002; tel DSN 229-3357/3158; civ (3) 6385-3357/3158; fax DSN 229-3271; civ (+81)(3) 3408-8936; e-mail skeent@pstripes.osd.mil; carlsonc@pstripes.osd.mil

Tokyo Reporters: Teri Weaver, Hana Kusumoto and Tim Wightman, tel DSN 229-3105, 229-3152 and 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3105/3152/3166; fax DSN 229-3271; e-mail weavert@pstripes.osd.mil; kusumotoh@pstripes.osd.mil; wightmant@pstripes.osd.mil
Misawa: T.D. Flack, tel DSN 226-2550; civ (0176) 53-5181 ext. 226-2550; (81) 3117-66-2550; fax DSN 226-3847; e-mail flacktd@pstripes.osd.mil
Sasebo/Iwakuni: Travis Tritten, PSC 476, Box 726, FPO AP 96322-1126; tel DSN 252-3832; civ (0956) 50-3832; fax DSN 252-3878; e-mail trittrtt@pstripes.osd.mil

Yokosuka/Atsugi: Erik Slavin and David Carter, tel DSN 241-2874/2873; civ (3) 04-6896-2874; cell 090-8054-8241; fax DSN 241-2876; e-mail slavin@pstripes.osd.mil; carterd@pstripes.osd.mil
Yokota/Camp Zama/Camp Fuji: Grant Okubo, Charlie Reed and Bryce Dube, Unit 5058 APO AP 96328-5058; cell 080-5641-1935 (Dube); tel DSN 225-9233 (Reed); e-mail okubog@pstripes.osd.mil; reedc@pstripes.osd.mil; dubeeb@pstripes.osd.mil
Okinawa: David Allen, Chiyomi Sumida and Matthew Orr, Camp Foster, Unit 5517, FPO AP 96374; tel DSN 645-3807 or civ (+81) (98) 893-2702; fax DSN 645-9165; e-mail okibureau@pstripes.osd.mil

KOREA

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Araia: (Camp Red Cloud): Jon Rabirot. Mail to: USAG-RC, Area 1, Unit 15707, Box 125, APO AP 96258. Tel (comm.): 031-873-6720; cell 010-8917-1959; e-mail: rabirotff@pstripes.osd.mil
Araia II: (Yongsan Garrison): Ashley Rowland, Hwang Hae-rym and Alfredo Jimenez Jr. Mail to Unit 15334, APO AP 96205-0423; tel DSN 721-7131, 721-7132 or 721-7134; civ (+82)(2) 2270-7131/7132/7134; e-mail: rowlanda@pstripes.osd.mil; hwangh@pstripes.osd.mil; jimenez@pstripes.osd.mil; koreabureau@pstripes.osd.mil; fax DSN 721-7141
Araia III, IV: (Osan Air Base, Camp Humphreys, Kunsan Air Base, Chinhae Naval Base) Franklin Fisher. Mail to Unit 15334, APO AP 96295-0423; tel DSN 784-2751 or civ (+82)(31) 661-2751; fax DSN 784-4523; e-mail fisherf@pstripes.osd.mil

WASHINGTON D.C.

Assistant bureau chief: Derek Turner, tel civ (+1)(202) 761-0860; e-mail Turner@pstripes.osd.mil; Reporters: Jeff Schogol, tel DSN (312) 222-1926; tel civ (+1)(703) 692-1926; e-mail jeffrey.schogol@pstripes.osd.mil; Leo Shane, tel DSN (312) 763-1183; tel civ (+1)(202) 761-1183; e-mail shanel@pstripes.osd.mil; Kevin Baron, tel DSN (312) 222-1875; tel civ (+1)(703) 692-1875; e-mail baronk@pstripes.osd.mil; and Megan McCloskey, e-mail mclloskeym@pstripes.osd.mil 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; fax civ (+1)(202) 761-0890

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/OPINION

Medical efforts underreported

I was pleasantly surprised to see my picture on the front page of the Oct. 8 edition ("Military doctors reshaping medical diplomacy efforts"). I am very proud to have been a part of the event depicted, and I am glad for the opportunity to tell your readers more about it.

The article may imply otherwise, but our effort was very much an example of what Lt. Col. Mark Hubner rightly favors: a cooperative effort by, with and through a sustainable partnership with Iraqi doctors. What the picture does not show is that an Iraqi cardiologist was sitting right behind me all day, and it was to him that I demonstrated the most important measurements. We saw 12 patients he had selected that day, and he got copies of the studies and the summaries. He presented findings to the families.

Working with our partners in civil military operations and nongovernmental organizations, he will refer the candidates to surgical centers.

The Army brigade surgeon, the Army hospital, Iraqi physicians, the provincial director of health, our civil military operations team and the State Department's Provincial Restoration Team planned this together for more than a month. We not only provided an important step toward saving these 12 children, we also taught our Iraqi colleagues how to help save the hundreds like them with congenital heart disease in this country.

Many of us have been engaged in similar efforts since 2003; we have long under-

stood that sustainable development can be undermined by the types of Medical Civic Action Programs (MEDCAPS) your article describes, and we have done our best to do what Lt. Col. Hubner is advocating. We wish you had reported what we actually achieved, and we hope you will highlight those efforts that, like ours, are planned well to have lasting benefit.

Col. John Scott
Victory Base Complex, Iraq

Policy shift logistically difficult

There are some big issues that need to be addressed before a decision like allowing homosexuals to serve openly in the military is made, and I don't hear anyone asking the right questions.

Here's one: Where will gay men and women in our formations sleep and shower? We don't currently allow men and women to sleep and shower together in our units, because of perceived morality issues and because it would almost certainly lead to behavior that is contrary to the good order and discipline of a unit. So will we allow men who are sexually inclined to other men, or women who are inclined to women, to sleep and shower with the same sex? Or will we make them sleep and shower with the opposite sex? Or will we give them their own showers and label them "gay man" and "gay woman" shower/lodging facilities? But that would be labeling the users and certainly lead to equal opportunity or some other type of complaints because the people using those facilities would feel singled out as homosexuals, and like they are

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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not being treated as equals to their heterosexual counterparts. This is the complaint under the current policy.

We must look at these and other follow-on effects of homosexuals openly serving in our military and develop a plan on how to deal with these things before we change the policy only to figure out that in our haste to be politically correct, we have traded one set of problems concerning this issue for a whole new series of problems.

Maj. Steve Petersen
Basra, Iraq

Palin's 'cold feet' comment inaccurate

Philadelphia Inquirer editorial

Political opponents of President Barack Obama are trying to convince the public that he is retreating from his stated goal to stop Afghanistan from again becoming a base for terrorists who target the United States.

They lie. That Obama is reassessing the best way to fulfill that goal doesn't mean he has abandoned it. To make that point, Obama reiterated last week that he doesn't plan to reduce U.S. troops in that theater. Of course, that didn't stop former Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin from accusing Obama of "cold feet" on her Facebook site.

It's interesting that some of the same people who say Obama isn't listening to the public on health care reform want him to ignore growing evidence that Americans question our course in Afghanistan. A Quinnipiac poll says only 38 percent of the public wants troop levels there increased.

Only a slight majority of those polled, 52 percent, even support the Afghanistan war. No doubt many are disheartened by evidence of rampant fraud in the recent reelection of President Hamid Karzai.

But no one should lose sight of the peril that this nation would face if it allowed the

Taliban to re-establish authority in Afghanistan and restore it as the safest haven for al-Qaida, which would love to repeat a Sept. 11-type attack.

Obama knows the danger of a Taliban resurgence, but he wants to be sure of the best way to prevent it. He did not rubber-stamp the advice of the man he chose to run U.S. military operations in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, who wants 40,000 more soldiers. But that doesn't mean Obama won't send more troops.

He met last week with congressional leaders to assure them that his goal in Afghanistan remains the same. Prodded by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., to speed up his decision on McChrystal's request, Obama responded that "no one feels more urgency to get this right than I do."

Some argue that Obama's delay could cost U.S. soldiers' lives, but that would also be true of a huge troop buildup that will put more soldiers in harm's way.

Obama also disputed suggestions that McChrystal had lost favor because his Afghanistan report was leaked before being presented to the president. "I'm the one who hired him," Obama reportedly told the congressional leaders. "I put him there to give me a frank assessment."

If Obama follows McChrystal's recommendation, current plans for 68,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan by year's end would keep growing to more than 100,000.

Obama is also considering suggestions that it might be as effective to increase U.S. troops by a smaller margin while specifically targeting al-Qaida leaders for elimination and working with those Taliban who aren't sympathetic to the Islamic terrorists. That's a gamble. But Obama is right to discuss a strategy that could greatly reduce the number of U.S. casualties. He has to decide whether such a path would only delay the inevitable and require more U.S. troops later. He also must figure out when and how Afghan and Pakistani soldiers would fill the breach if McChrystal doesn't get his request.

It is important that Obama make up his mind soon so his generals can plan accordingly. But this shouldn't be a hasty decision. McChrystal told Newsweek he won't resign if his request for 40,000 more troops is denied. But the general needs to know what force he will have to do his job.

The president is wise to take the time he needs to get the answer right. Any suggestion otherwise is just politics, and ought to be confined to Facebook.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION

Karzai's legitimacy not the deciding factor

BY RICHARD FONTAINE
AND JOHN NAGL

As the Obama administration debates whether to stick with the counterinsurgency strategy for Afghanistan, opponents point to that nation's flawed presidential election as a reason why this approach cannot work. Counterinsurgency is premised, they argue, on the presence of a legitimate national government that can win allegiance from local populations. Given credible allegations of rampant abuse in Afghanistan's August election, President Hamid Karzai's newly illegitimate government cannot play this role. As a result, the United States has little choice but to change strategies.

This argument is badly flawed. Electoral fraud will render our task in Afghanistan more difficult, but it does not make counterinsurgency impossible. On the contrary, a counterinsurgency approach — and not a narrowly tailored mission focused solely on killing or capturing enemies — remains the best path to success in Afghanistan.

To understand why, consider the analogous case of Iraq over the last three years. In January 2007, the "surge" of combat forces began as part of a new counterinsurgency strategy that emphasized clearing areas of fighters, holding that territory

and building the infrastructure and institutions that had been so badly lacking — just as Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal has proposed for Afghanistan. At the time, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's Shiite-led government was widely viewed as weak and sectarian. An overwhelming number of Sunni Arabs — who formed the center of gravity of the insurgency — rejected its legitimacy and had boycotted the December 2005 elections that brought it to power. The al-Maliki government had done little to allay these feelings. ... As Sunnis became further alienated from the central government, violence began to spiral out of control.

Army Gen. David Petraeus' counterinsurgency strategy aimed to arrest this process by using American troops to protect the population — predicting, correctly, that until basic security was restored in key neighborhoods and communities, extremists on both sides of the sectarian divide would continue to inflame the situation. With U.S. forces clearing and holding territory and demonstrating to the Sunnis that they had a reasonable alternative to al-Qaida and its sectarian warfare, the extremists were sidelined. Security began to improve, and the political space necessary for reconciliation began to open.

Prospects for such an outcome

in Afghanistan actually look better now than they did in Iraq in early 2007. To begin with, unlike Iraq — where success hinged on persuading a critical mass of the Sunni Arab community to accept the bitter reality of a Shiite-led government — no deep existential issue drives Afghans (primarily Pashtuns) into the arms of the insurgents.

In fact, according to polls and other evidence, the overwhelming majority of Afghans, including Pashtuns, remain hostile to the Taliban's ideological agenda and unenthusiastic about a return to the medievalism that was inflicted on the country when it was last in power. The inroads the Taliban has made mainly reflect the failures and abuses of the Afghan government at the local level, not transcendent grievances about ethnic or sectarian divides.

For this reason, the national government in Afghanistan almost certainly retains greater legitimacy among the people than did the Iraqi government before things began to turn for the better there. ...

This is not to say that a stolen presidential election is meaningless. But our main goal should be helping the Afghan government work at the local level — providing the marginal but tangible improvements in security, governance and prosperity that or-



ordinary Afghans say they want, and stopping the corruption and abuses they personally contend with and resent. ...

We are in Afghanistan because its takeover by the Taliban would be catastrophic for American national interests. The Taliban seek to achieve that goal by exploiting any gaps they can find between the government and the people. Our task is to see clearly the causes for these gaps and take the steps necessary to close them.

This is precisely what McChrystal spent upward of 60 pages ex-

plaining in his recent assessment. The counterinsurgency strategy he describes — difficult and costly though it may be — remains the best possible path to preventing the return of Afghanistan to a Taliban-dominated terrorist sanctuary.

Richard Fontaine was a foreign policy adviser to John McCain during his presidential campaign and in the Senate. John Nagl was part of the team that produced Petraeus' counterinsurgency manual. Nagl is president and Fontaine is a senior fellow of the Center for New American Security. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Appreciate perspective of troops who were there

BY LARRY MINEAR

As the Obama administration struggles with whether to increase U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan, news coverage has highlighted slippage in support among the American public for the war. The erosion reflects a worrisome spike in U.S. casualties and the weaknesses of the Afghan government demonstrated by August's flawed elections.

Conspicuously absent from the public debate are the views of U.S. soldiers back from Afghanistan and Iraq, those currently there, and those poised for deployment or redeployment. In one sense, this is as it should be. Members of the armed forces serving in these conflicts have exhibited great professionalism in keeping political opinions to themselves. Yet many have strong views about the rationale for U.S. engagement, the strategies and tactics, the adequacy of their training and equipment, and the length and frequency of deployments. Whatever their views, the perspectives of those in harm's way deserve to be taken more fully into account in decision-making about the war.

The views of veterans of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq are sharply etched in the thousand-plus dossiers available in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project. Amplifying them are interviews with scores of soldiers I have conducted for a forthcoming book.

Veterans' views vary widely. Many of those interviewed are more convinced of the rightness and urgency of doing battle in Afghanistan than in Iraq, although a fair number do not resonate to the Global War on Terror rationale offered by George W. Bush's administration for either conflict. Some veterans in each conflict have become more convinced about the necessity of U.S. military involvement as a result

of their own combat or their hearts-and-minds work. Others who were firmly committed to the cause when deployed have now become tough critics. ...

As the Obama administration considers its options in Afghanistan, the factors to be weighed are legion. Boosting U.S. troop strength would work serious hardship on many American families and communities. That likelihood is reflected in the comment of one spouse in a focus group of family members convened in late 2006. Her marriage, she confided, had barely survived her husband's first deployment to Afghanistan as a member of a New England National Guard unit. She doubted that it would survive a second.

The issue, of course, is not whether an escalation of the U.S. military presence in Afghanistan would cause hardship but rather whether the hardship in pursuit of objectives that are themselves still being

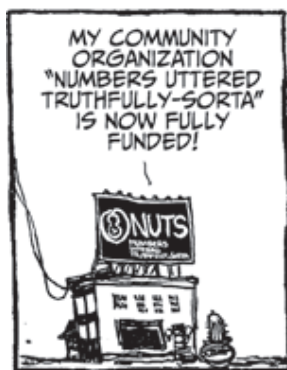
defined would be worth the costs. ... Policymakers may balk at the proposition that a war could be so costly that it should not be waged at all. However, the experience described firsthand by the veterans is so wrenching that it underscores the need to rethink the traditional cost/benefit calculus before committing additional troops.

In recent weeks, President Barack Obama has begun to demonstrate a welcome wariness about whether to increase U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan. "I have to exercise skepticism any time I send a single young man or woman in uniform into harm's way," he says, "because I'm the one who is answerable to their parents if they don't come home." His predecessor, visiting Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington in December, said, "Being commander in chief of the military is the thing I'll miss most. Coming to Walter Reed is a reminder of why I'll miss it."

The experience of the U.S. troops who have served in Afghanistan and Iraq since Sept. 11, 2001, does not provide the president with an unequivocal answer to the question of whether to augment the U.S. troops in Afghanistan, and, if so, by what number. From the many opinions in the interviews cited in my study, however, a cautionary note sounded by Marine Sgt. Adam Paulson seems particularly worth pondering. Asked how his tours of duty in the two theaters have affected his thinking, he replied: "The experience makes me a whole lot more against war in general. It would be a last resort for me. The first-person perspective has definitely changed my life. How big a responsibility it is to declare war or wage war!"

Larry Minear, a retired researcher from Brown University's Watson Institute and Tufts University, is the author of "Through Veterans' Eyes: The Iraq and Afghanistan Experience." This column first appeared in The Providence (R.I.) Journal.

Prickly City



BY SCOTT STANTIS

Legislator faces 3 felonies in crash

MT HELENA — Prosecutors filed felony charges against a Montana state senator accused of recklessly endangering a U.S. congressman and three others when he allegedly crashed a boat at high speed onto a rocky embankment after a night of drinking.

State Sen. Greg Barkus was drinking scotch and wine before the Aug. 27 crash and had a blood-alcohol level of .16 — twice the legal limit — when he was tested nearly two hours later at a hospital, prosecutors said in charging documents.

U.S. Rep. Denny Rehberg suffered a broken ankle and other injuries in the Flathead Lake crash, while Rehberg's state director, Dustin Frost, spent 10 days in a coma and has a severe brain injury. Barkus broke his pelvis and ribs and two others were also hurt.

Case against wife of ex-warden to proceed

OK MANGUM — The criminal case against the wife of a former Oklahoma prison warden accused of helping a convicted killer escape more than 15 years ago will proceed to trial after a judge rejected a defense argument that the statute of limitations on the crime had expired.

Bobbi Parker, 47, is charged with helping convicted killer Randolph Dial escape from the Oklahoma State Reformatory in Granite in 1994. The two remained together for more than a decade before they were discovered living on a chicken ranch in east Texas, near Campti, in 2005.

Parker's attorney argued the case should be thrown out because the three-year statute of limitations on the crime had run out and the delay violated Parker's constitutional right to due process.

A trial date is set for Jan. 11.

Moldovan guilty in U.S. labor trafficking case

MO KANSAS CITY — A Moldovan, one of 12 people charged in a massive racketeering scheme, has pleaded guilty in federal court to one count of forced labor trafficking, and agreed to cooperate with the government.

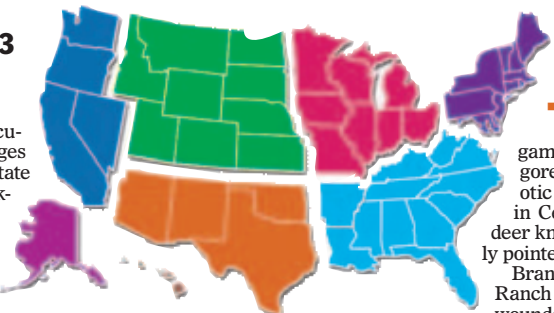
Alexandru Frumusache admitted in a plea bargain that he had aided and abetted an operation in which foreigners were provided with temporary work visas then fanned out to housekeeping jobs in 14 states.

Frumusache admitted he drove workers to various places in violation of their work visas.

Eight Uzbekistan nationals and four others were charged in May in the largest human trafficking case ever prosecuted in Kansas City.

Changing focus leads Dell to close plant

NC RALEIGH — A massive Dell computer assembly plant once seen as a job generator worthy of the promise of more than \$300 million in state and local inducements will go dark in four months, a victim of new corporate



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

calculations and changing customer tastes.

Dell announced it will close its desktop computer manufacturing plant near Winston-Salem by the end of January, shedding 905 workers. The announcement came two days after the plant marked four years in operation.

"If you look at it from a holistic perspective, this is a desktop manufacturing facility and we've seen the customer prefer laptop computers," Dell spokesman Venancio Figueroa said. "Given the dynamics at play across the landscape, we made the difficult decision to shut this down."

Feds issue safety, health warnings to 10 mines

WV CHARLESTON — The operators of 10 U.S. mines, including the largest private-sector coal company in the world, have been warned they must improve health and safety conditions or face stricter enforcement and penalties, the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration said.

Half the mines are in West Virginia, the nation's second-largest coal producer. One is a lead and zinc mine in Missouri and the rest are coal operations in Kentucky, Indiana and Virginia.



Flying to the finish

A team member from Cuero, Texas, starts the Great Gobbler Gallop race, encouraging a turkey named Ruby Begonia to run straight during the second race in Cuero. This marks the 37th year the race has been held between the Texas city and Worthington, Minn.

Exotic deer gores man

TX MOUNTAIN HOME — A game manager, 27, was gored to death at an exotic game hunting ranch in Central Texas by a rare deer known for its full, sharply pointed rack.

Brandon Buchi of the Y.O. Ranch suffered puncture wounds to the side and thigh. Kerrville County Sheriff Rusty Hierholzer said the deer, known as a Barasingha, attacked after Buchi removed it from a transport trailer on ranch grounds Oct. 1.

Hierholzer told the Austin American-Statesman that the deer died from the exertion of the attack.

Woman settles suit in '06 spinach sickness

CA SALINAS — An 85-year-old woman who fell sick after eating E. coli-tainted spinach during a nationwide outbreak three years ago has settled her lawsuit against California growers and shippers.

Jane Majeska of Fond du Lac, Wis., was hospitalized with hemolytic uremic syndrome and depended on a feeding tube and ventilator for survival after eating Dole packaged spinach in August 2006.

The outbreak killed three people, sickened 200 and cost the industry \$80 million in lost sales.

Attorneys did not release the amount of her confidential settlement.

Police: Man shot fiancée day before wedding

FL WINTER SPRINGS — A man who thought there was an intruder in his house shot and killed his fiancée the day before they were to be married, police said.

John Tabutt, 62, told investigators he got his gun when he thought he heard an intruder, then fired at a figure in the hallway, according to Police Chief Kevin Brunelle. It was Tabutt's live-in fiancée, Nancy Dinsmore, 62, whom family members say he was about to marry.

Tabutt told authorities he thought she was next to him in bed the whole time.

Brunelle said no charges have been filed against Tabutt, adding the information he provided has been verified and he appeared "very distraught."

Lawsuit: Teacher tried to sicken autistic boy

IN INDIANAPOLIS — The mother of an 8-year-old autistic boy with severe peanut allergies said that an Indianapolis teacher gave her son a peanut-filled candy bar in hopes of making him sick so he wouldn't go on a field trip.

A lawsuit filed by the boy's mother, Anita Young, alleges that special education teacher Trinda Barocas told a classroom aide that the boy would likely misbehave and "maybe he could be sick enough not to attend and we won't have to deal with it." Young said her son, Jacob, experiences swelling if he merely touches peanuts.

Jacob didn't eat the candy bar.

Barocas told state investigators earlier this year that the allegations were false.



Audrey Carson 3, of Omaha, Neb., samples unusually early snow while playing outside. Several inches of snow accumulated in Omaha.



Kathy Burek with the Alaska Veterinary Pathology Service, right, and a group of volunteers examine a dead Beluga whale found on the mud flats near downtown Anchorage, Alaska. The exact cause of the whale's death is not known but, according to Burek, it is not uncommon to find dead beluga whales in Cook Inlet as a natural part of the animal's mortality.



Shadow play

Bob Biddle shoots baskets in Lockwood Park in Racine, Wis.



Where the wind takes him
Eric Yeung, 23, of White Salmon, Wash., picks up air as he launches his kiteboard at Tawas Point State Park.



Puppy love
Caden Tierny, 2, laughs when a corgi puppy nibbles on his cheek at the Sproul Arena near Las Cruces, N.M.



A river runs through it
Rafts float down a channel carved by the Rogue River through 88 years of sediment built up by the Savage Rapids Dam near Rogue River, Ore. The rafts were taking part in a celebration marking the breaching of the dam after a decades-long struggle to help the river's salmon and steelhead.

Authorities seek cause of sweat lodge deaths

AZ PHOENIX — Authorities seeking answers to what caused two deaths and more than a dozen illnesses at an Arizona resort's sauna-like sweat lodge were investigating whether any of the victims had medical conditions or had been fasting.

In all, 21 of the 64 people crowded inside the sweat lodge at the Angel Valley Retreat Center received medical care at hospitals and a fire station. Four remained hospitalized — one in critical condition and the others in fair condition.

Authorities haven't determined the cause of the deaths and illnesses; tests for carbon monoxide and other contaminants were negative.

Gallons of moonshine found under shed

NC WILKESBORO — North Carolina authorities say they found 929 gallons of moonshine under a shed in the mountains.

State Alcohol Law Enforcement officials say Roger Lee Nance, 63, of Wilkesboro was arrested on charges including possession of non-tax-paid liquor for the purpose of selling.

Agency director John Ledford said it's one of the biggest mountain busts he can remember.

Spokeswoman Patty McQuillan said Nance stored moonshine in different-shaped containers under a shed in his backyard and was arrested following a two-month investigation.

Collectors seek to prove stolen art exists

CA SANTA CRUZ — Two men accused of lying about having millions of dollars of artwork stolen from their high-rent home in Pebble Beach released documents that they insist proves they were ripped off.

The packet distributed to reporters contained a list of 19 paintings that the collectors, Benjamin Amadio and Dr. Ralph Kennaugh, say were stolen.

The list included works by Joan Miro, Vincent Van Gogh, Jackson Pollock and others. The untitled Pollock has received the most attention because it has been speculated to be worth up to \$40 million.

The document release was in direct response to the Monterey County Sheriff's Department statement earlier this week questioning the veracity of the alleged crime and naming the two men as suspects in the case.

Wife-carrying contest won by Maine couple

ME NEWRY — A Maine couple has taken the crown in the North American Wife Carrying Championship over a course that featured a muddy water hole and two log obstacles.

Dave and Lacey Castro of Lewiston came in first among 41 teams to win the competition at Sunday River ski resort in Newry. They covered the 278-yard course in 54.45 seconds.

For their effort, the couple won 97-pound Lacey Castro's weight in beer and five times her weight in cash — \$485.

Teams from 11 states competed in the 10th annual race in which a man has to carry a woman, or vice

versa, over an obstacle course.

As the North American champs, the Castros are eligible to compete in the world championships in Finland next July.

Bernard Madoff mask popular this Halloween

NY NEW YORK — Expect to see a lot of Bernard Madoffs this Halloween.

The real Madoff pleaded guilty to a decades-long Ponzi scheme that cost investors billions of dollars and is serving a 150-year prison sentence. But he'll be joining the witches and ghosts on Halloween.

Madoff masks are top sellers at costume stores and Web sites. But Rubie's Costume Company's executive vice president Howard Beige predicts that Madoff will be outsold by Michael Jackson.

Trooper defends use of force in report

OK OKLAHOMA CITY — An Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper defended his use of a baton in a second case involving claims he used excessive force.

Trooper Daniel Martin said Kristopher Douglas, 28, disobeyed four requests to move back from a traffic stop in Holdenville. He said he struck Douglas' left thigh once.

Douglas says he was trying to enter a friend's house when troopers arrived. He is charged with obstructing an officer.

Martin and another trooper remain on administrative leave pending an investigation.

In July, Martin was suspended without pay after scuffling with a paramedic during a traffic stop involving an ambulance.

Gunmen sought in bar shootout; no one hurt

OH TOLEDO — A wild gunfight involving at least five gunmen sent patrons fleeing from a northwestern Ohio bar, but police say no one was injured.

The gunfire lasted for several minutes and was captured on a video surveillance system at the Route 66 Kitchen in Toledo.

Deputy Police Chief Don Kenney said the gunshots escalated from a fistfight that apparently began when a bar employee asked a man who was trying to sell marijuana to leave.

Police are still looking for the suspects. The shooting took place near the University of Toledo campus, but police say they don't believe any students were involved.

5th Circuit backs decision in flag case

LA NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court has affirmed a lower decision to dismiss a case by current and former Burleson, Texas, students who sued after school officials banned them from carrying purses bearing the Confederate battle flag.

A federal judge dismissed the case in April 2008. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has affirmed that decision in a ruling.

Two teen girls took the purses to school in early 2006, according to the lawsuit that asked the school district clear the girls' student record, acknowledge that their constitutional rights were violated and pay unspecified damages.

Horoscope

Lady Venus enters the sign of relationships. While Venus is in Libra, as she will be between now and Nov. 7, we are likely to go to great lengths for the sake of building harmonious bonds. We can no longer afford to hold on to old grievances — too much is at stake. The sweetest treasures of life are our connections with others.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 14). Your imagination is strong, and you will return from flights of fancy with ideas that will work in the real world. Follow through on the best of the best. A loving relationship rubs off on all your relationships. You'll make money through a big sale in February and June. Summer adventure begins with a surprise. Cancer and Scorpio people adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your opinions will suddenly carry more weight. This is a good thing, too, because an important situation needs your perspective. Speak boldly and save the day. Then close your eyes and savor the applause.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone you care about has been recently struck with a bad case of the gloomies. The situation is not desperate, but it could turn that way if left untreated. Your love and attention will go a long way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Sometimes you're a sprinter. Other times you are a marathon runner. And right now you see no need to run for any reason. Keep that easy pace and expend very little energy. You'll get it all done just the same.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Change your ringtone. Change the wallpaper on your desktop. If you can change your alarm clock sound, do it. Shifting around the most seemingly trivial elements can bring a wonderful sense of the new.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Domestic bliss at home just won't transfer over to the workplace, but at least you'll

feel emotionally supported enough to tackle the challenges. When you succeed, it's a source of pride for your loved ones, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Break out the champagne! Your hard work has paid off, and now you can chill out for a second, revel and reflect on the curious path that brought your unpredictable success. Life is smiling at you right now.

Holiday Mathis



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). How it is that some people get so worked up over nothing is beyond you. It's like you were born with some special gene that keeps you calm in the face of adversity. Spread a little of that serenity among your friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Something reminds you of an old romance. Take a moment to replay the whole story in your mind. You've come so far. The memory will have a positive effect on your current relationship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your mind decides things for reasons you don't understand. Is it intuition or an old pattern that keeps you returning to a certain subject? Go for a long walk and you'll get clarity on the matter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have extraordinary visual powers now. It will be lucky for you to sketch your ideas, rearrange your working space or put together a presentation. What you come up with will speak to others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your role as a lifelong learner is highlighted with a new "teacher" who arrives on the scene. This one may be very unscholarly indeed, perhaps someone much younger than you. But the lessons are strong.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You can do remarkable work in the morning, though you shouldn't try to push yourself for too long. A natural, easygoing pace will be much more productive. You'll be immune to the stresses that affect others.

Creators.com

SUDOKU

		3	1	8		6		
			6					8
7							9	
	6		1					
		7			9			1
	3			5		8		7
	5				3			
	4			2		1		
2			4					9

Difficulty: Medium

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

8	7	1	2	4	6	9	5	3
5	3	4	6	7	1	2	9	8
2	5	8	9	3	1	7	4	6
7	1	3	4	8	9	6	5	2
4	2	9	5	3	6	7	1	8
1	6	8	1	2	7	4	3	9
6	8	7	3	5	2	9	4	1
3	9	2	7	1	4	5	8	6
1	4	5	9	6	8	3	2	7

Beetle Bailey



Get Fuzzy



Candorville



Meaning of Lila



Knight Life



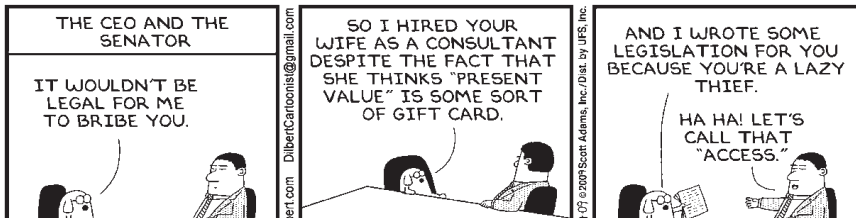
Baldo



Other Coast



Dilbert



Frazz



Garfield



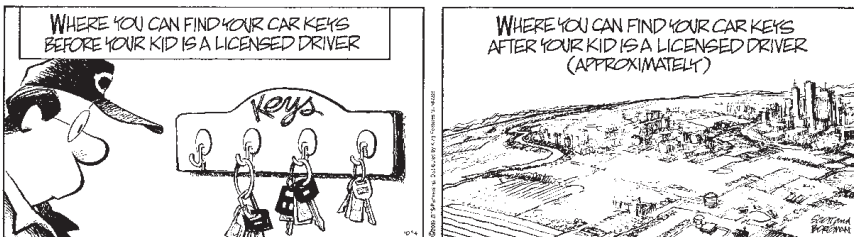
Baby Blues



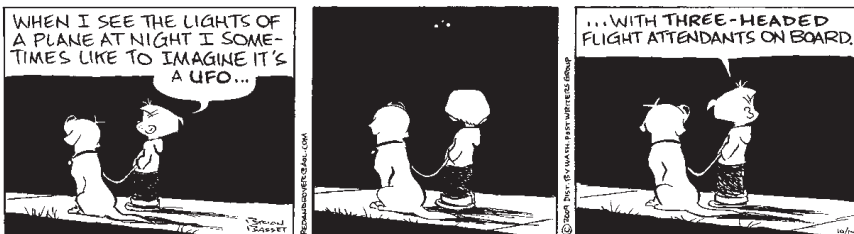
Jump Start



Zits



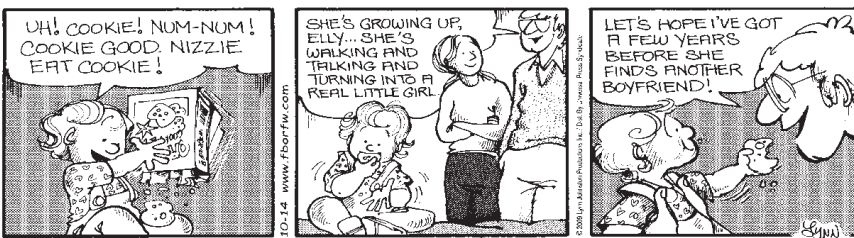
Red & Rover



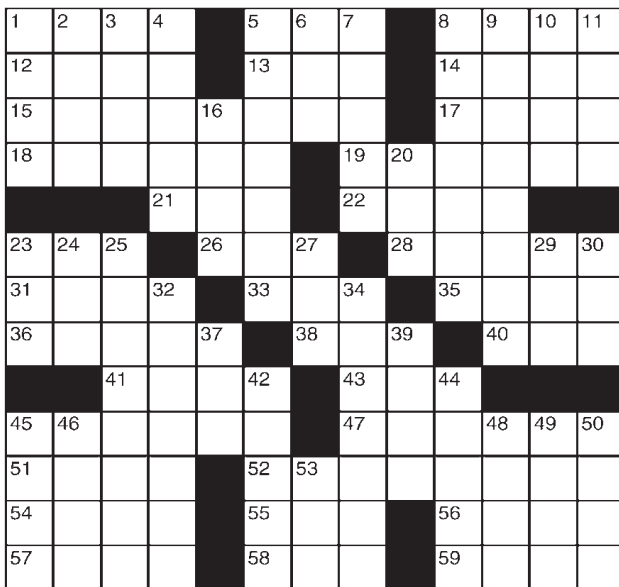
Hagar



Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Long story
- 5 Wander about
- 8 Unembellished
- 12 Winged
- 13 Bruins legend
- 14 Skater's leap
- 15 "Melancholy Baby" start
- 17 Wound cover
- 18 Wailed like a banshee
- 19 Safe and sound
- 21 Moreover
- 22 Sailor's septet
- 23 Pussycat's partner
- 26 Bill
- 28 Treat for Tabby
- 31 Coral structure
- 33 Addressee
- 35 BBs and such
- 36 Part of a Santa costume
- 38 PC program, for short
- 40 Eternity
- 41 Tidy
- 43 Jewel
- 45 "Friends" role
- 47 Shriveled grape
- 51 Settle down
- 52 "Dunno"
- 54 Ticklish Muppet
- 55 Young fellow
- 56 Tears
- 57 Consider

DOWN

- 18 Brewster's oven
- 27 Slithery squeezer
- 29 Latin 101 word
- 30 Calendar abbr.
- 32 License
- 34 Better model
- 37 Apply lightly
- 39 Bartlett or Bosc signoff
- 42 Electrical coil inventor
- 44 Itty-bitty
- 45 Begged
- 46 "Gilligan's Island" cast member
- 48 Actor LaBeouf
- 49 Mischievous tykes
- 50 Egg container
- 53 Corn spike

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-14

CRYPTOQUIP

DHCJ IPMIBSMLMK APTB
HPJCH RPHHPZBSA ZEP BMN
QD KBVVLMLK NLA KSCIBN:

"VEB AECTLMK PR VEB VSQB."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I FOUND AN EATERY SPECIALIZING IN PREPARING HEALTHFUL FOODS THAT CALLS ITSELF A NO-FRY ZONE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals U

Despairing teen seeking help

Dear Abby: I am a 15-year-old girl who is losing the will to live. I am bisexual, but my parents are very anti-gay/lesbian, so I can't tell them about my sexual orientation.

Every day I engage in self-injury using a metal chain, and I think about suicide a lot. Please help me.

— Hurting in Florida

Dear Hurting: As you already know, your sexual orientation isn't something you chose. It is something you were born with, and your parents' disapproval — as intimidating as it may be — isn't going to change it. What you are experiencing is not uncommon in young people who have discovered they are "different." But there is help, not only for you but also for your parents.

The first thing you should do is contact The Trevor Helpline. It is a nationwide, 24-hour helpline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning young people.

A counselor there can help you sort out your feelings and figure out some options. You can find out more about it by going to www.thetrevorproject.org. The toll-free number is (866) 488-7386.

Another terrific resource is PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). PFLAG was established in the 1980s and offers specific advice on how to deal with your parents. You will find its Web site at www.pflag.org.

Both of these organizations provide the support you need, so please don't wait to contact them.

Dear Abby: My heart is broken. My 18-year-old son, "Joey," has just put his name on someone else's child's birth certificate. He met the girl in high school. She was already pregnant. Joey has been out of school since May. He has no job, no money and no car.

Joey promised her family he will "take care of her." They were

only too happy to hear it because the real father wants nothing to do with her or the baby. Her parents have made my son feel like a hero, and he enjoys it.

I did everything in my power to talk him out of it. Nothing worked. I can't believe that the girl's family is encouraging him. Joey is not a man, even if he is 18.

— Heartbroken Mom in Mesa, Ariz.

Dear Mom: Your son may feel like a hero, but apparently he was not thinking rationally when he put his name on that birth certificate, because what he did was fraud. The father of that baby should be listed as the father, and he is the one who should be financially responsible until the child reaches adulthood. If Joey wants to lend emotional support, more power to him. But I'm advising you to consult an attorney to see if this mess can be unraveled before he gets in any deeper.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.ueexpress.com/dearabby>

Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GITUL

GOUCH

DIMFOY

BLAURT

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NEW Jumble iPhone App go to: <http://tinyurl.com/jumbleapp>

Answer:

“ ”

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's

Jumbles: QUAKE KNOWN CANNED ACTUAL

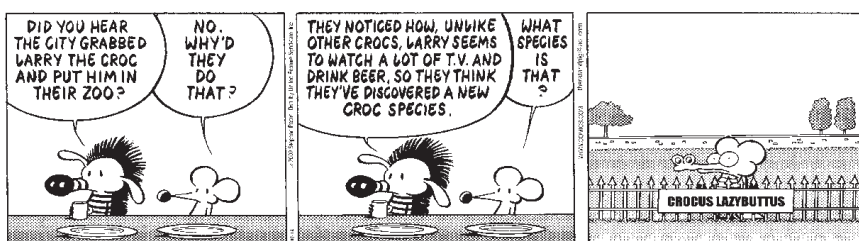
Answer: When the noisy pet duck woke up the farmboy, it was the — "QUACK" OF DAWN

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

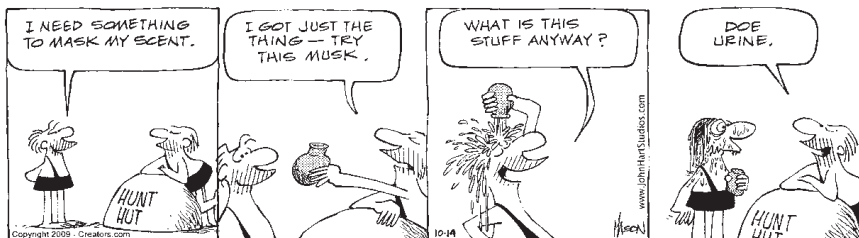


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Pearls Before Swine



B.C.



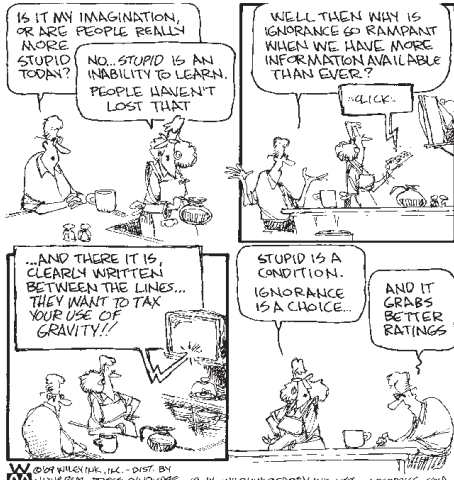
Over the Hedge



Pardon My Planet



Non Sequitur



Strange Brew



AFN Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at www.myafn.net

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
15:00	Sesame Street	Funniest Home Videos	(2:45) Movie "What's Eating Gilbert Grape" (1993, Comedy-Drama) Johnny Depp, Juliette Lewis.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty Battleground	Design Remix	SportsCenter	(2:00) Sports
15:30		Planet's Funniest Animals					Curb Appeal		
16:00	The View	(3:50) Pokémon		Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	Today's Air Force Recon	Somali Pirate Takedown the Real Story	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
16:30		(4:0) Zatch Bell		Tavis Smiley					
17:00	Dr. Phil	The Fairly OddParents	Movie Mob	Nightly Business Report	Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	King of the Hill		X Play
17:30		Teenage Mutant Ninja	At the Movies	Nightline	Jeopardy!	Downrange	That '70s Show		Yo Momma
18:00	The Dr. Oz Show	SpongeBob SquarePants	Hollywood Dailies	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Week-Pentagon	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		The Simpsons
18:30		Hannah Montana	Entertainment Tonight		Around the Services	FNG Useful benefits.	The Colbert Report		Family Guy
19:00	Access Hollywood	True Jackson, VP	Movie "Men of Honor" (2000) Robert De Niro. The U.S. Navy's first black diver battles a crippling setback.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	NUMB3RS "Frienemies"	Briefing Encore	Dancing With the Stars		WWE Monday Night Raw
19:30	The King of Queens	Naturally, Sadie				Fit For Duty			
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Summerland "The Space Between Us"		Today	The Game "Take a Bow"	Battleground			
20:30					Worst Week "The Puppy"	Recon Revisited			
21:00	General Hospital	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Dead End"	(15) Movie "Behind Enemy Lines" (2001, Action) Owen Wilson, Gene Hackman, Gabriel Macht.	Today	The Jay Leno Show	Around the Services	The Superstars		The Salt 'N Pepa Show
21:30						Pacific Report			Bully Beatdown
22:00	Days of our Lives	Degrassi: TNG		America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Briefing Encore		Sports	SportsNation
22:30		Strange Days			The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	USARJ This Week	Friends		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Parents"	(10) Movie "Top Gun" (1986, Adventure) Tom Cruise.	Newsroom	Late Show-Letterman	The Grill Sergeants	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		Attack of the Show!
23:30						Downrange	The Colbert Report		

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	True Jackson, VP	(11:10) Movie "Top Gun" (1986) Tom Cruise, Kelly McGillis.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	This Week in the Pentagon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	Naturally, Sadie			The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty			Yo Momma
1:00	Headline News	Summerland "The Space Between Us"	(10) Movie "Brian's Song" (2001) Sean Maher, Mekhi Phifer. The story of football players Brian Piccolo and Gale Sayers.	Happening Now		Recon	Battlestar Galactica "Islanded in a Stream of Stars"		The Simpsons
1:30	ATSAFN Report				Judge Judy	Around the Services	Supernatural "Home"		Family Guy
2:00	NUMB3RS A vigilante group goes after a career criminal.	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Dead End"		Newsroom	House "Family"	Downrange			WWE Monday Night Raw
2:30						Today's Air Force			
3:00	The Game "Take a Bow"	Degrassi: Next Generation	(2:50) Movie "Men of Honor" (2000, Drama) Robert De Niro. The U.S. Navy's first black diver battles a crippling setback.	MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	Recon Revisited	Close to Home "Romeo and Juliet Murders"	Sports	
3:30	Worst Week "The Puppy"	Strange Days-Blake Holsey				State Dept Briefing			
4:00	The Jay Leno Show	7th Heaven "Parents"		Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Millennium"		The Salt 'N Pepa Show
4:30						Around the Services	Friends	College Football Live	Bully Beatdown
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies	(05) Movie "Behind Enemy Lines" (2001) Owen Wilson. An American flight navigator is stranded in war-torn Bosnia.	The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Final Score	Army Newswatch	Namaste Yoga	Sports	SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
5:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Rolie Polie Olie		Glenn Beck	Headline News	This Week in the Pentagon	Total Body Sculpt With Glad		Jim Rome Is Burning
6:00		Sesame Street			Good Morning America	Downrange	Giada at Home Block party	Around the Horn	Attack of the Show!
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman	Bear in the Big Blue House	Movie Mob	Around the Services	Good Morning America	Around the Services	Cooking-Sandra Lee	Pardon the Interruption	
7:00						Briefing Encore	E! News Entertainment news	SportsCenter	MTV Hits Playlist
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Raggs	At the Movies	NBC Nightly News		FNG Useful benefits.	The Daily 10		
8:00		Dora the Explorer	Hollywood Dailies	World News-Gibson	Sesame Street	Fit For Duty	ER "Middleman"	Sports	Sports
8:30	Judge Judy	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Entertainment Tonight	CBS Evening News		Around the Services			
9:00	House "Family"	The Backyardigans	Movie "To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday" (1996, Drama) Peter Gallagher, Claire Danes.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	The View	Recon Revisited	Desperate Housewives "Come Play Wiz Me"		
9:30		Curious George		Hannity	Dr. Phil	State Dept Briefing			
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Peep-Big World	(45) Movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961) Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Patricia Neal. A woman hides vulnerability behind a sophisticated facade.	Anderson Cooper 360	The Dr. Oz Show	Fit For Duty	Grey's Anatomy "Great Expectations"		
10:30		Super Why!				AFN Europe Report	Judge Judy	Sports	
11:00	Dr. Phil	Curious George		Special Report With Bret Baier	Access Hollywood	Recon	Judge Alex		
11:30		The Backyardigans		Campbell Brown	The King of Queens	Battleground	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Anonymous"		
12:00	CBS Evening News	Dora the Explorer	(12:55) Movie "Desperately Seeking Susan" (1985, Comedy) Rosanna Arquette, Madonna, Aidan Quinn.	Your World With Neil Cavuto	The Young and the Restless	Around the Services	Challenge		
12:30	ESPNNEWS	Raggs			General Hospital	Briefing Encore			
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Bear in the Big Blue House				Downrange			
13:30		Sesame Street				AFN Europe Report	Emeril Live	SportsCenter	Sports
14:00	NBC Nightly News					Recon			
14:30	World News-Gibson	Funniest Home Videos	(2:50) Movie "Midnight Run" (1988) Robert De Niro. A bounty hunter and an accused embezzler must duck the mob.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Landscaping Smart	SportsCenter	
15:00	Sesame Street	Planet's Funniest Animals		Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	Battleground	Color Splash		
15:30		(3:50) Pokémon		Tavis Smiley		The American Veteran	Top Gear	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
16:00	The View	(4:0) Zatch Bell		Nightly Business Report	Wheel of Fortune	Recon Revisited			
16:30					Jeopardy!	Around the Services	King of the Hill		X Play
17:00	Dr. Phil	(05) The Fairly OddParents	At the Movies	Nightline	World News-Gibson	Downrange	That '70s Show		Punk'd
17:30		Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Entertainment Studios.com	The O'Reilly Factor	Around the Services	Fi. Hood on Track	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		The Simpsons
18:00	The Dr. Oz Show	SpongeBob SquarePants	Hollywood Dailies		American Dad	Today's Air Force	The Colbert Report		Family Guy
18:30		Hannah Montana	Entertainment Tonight	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Family Guy	Briefing Encore	Dancing With the Stars		The Ultimate Fighter
19:00	Access Hollywood	Sonny With a Chance	Movie "Maid in Manhattan" (2002) Jennifer Lopez, Ralph Fiennes. A politician mistakes a hotel maid for a wealthy woman.	Today	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Hog Heaven"	Fit For Duty	Wedding Day		Gotti's Way
19:30	The King of Queens	Zoey 101			The Jay Leno Show	Air Force Football			Harlem Heights
20:00	The Young and the Restless	American Dreams "City on Fire"		America's Newsroom		Around the Services	Desperate Housewives "Bargaining"	Sports	Rock of Love With Bret Michaels
20:30				Newsroom	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Pacific Report	Seinfeld "The Muffin Tops"		SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
21:00	General Hospital	Beverly Hills, 90210 "The Child Is the Father to the Man"	(8:58) Movie "A Raisin in the Sun" (2008, Drama) Sean Combs, Phylicia Rashad. Black family members differ on how to spend insurance money.		Late Show-Letterman	This Week in the Pentagon	Friends		Attack of the Show!
21:30						Tour of Duty	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		
22:00	Days of our Lives	Degrassi: Next Generation				Downrange	The Colbert Report		
22:30		Strange Days-Blake Holsey							
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Crazy"	(23) MovieHot Shots! (1991)						

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	Sonny With a Chance	(11:23) Movie "Hot Shots!" (1991, Comedy) Charlie Sheen.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	EXchange on Air	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	Zoey 101			The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty			Punk'd
1:00	Headline News	American Dreams "City on Fire"	(03) Movie "Scary Movie 3" (2003, Comedy) Anna Faris, Anthony Anderson, Leslie Nielsen.	Happening Now	Judge Judy	Today's Air Force	The Starter Wife "The Ex-Files"		The Simpsons
1:30	ATSAFN Report				House "Resignation"	Around the Services	Ghost Whisperer "Fire-starter"		Family Guy
2:00	American Dad	Beverly Hills, 90210 "The Child Is the Father to the Man"		Newsroom		Downrange			The Ultimate Fighter
2:30	Family Guy					This Week in the Pentagon			
3:00	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Hog Heaven"	Degrassi: Next Generation	(38) Movie "Maid in Manhattan" (2002) Jennifer Lopez. A politician mistakes a hotel maid for a wealthy woman.	MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	The Grill Sergeants	Psych Shawn and Gus try to find a man accused of murder.	Sports	Gotti's Way
3:30		Strange Days-Blake Holsey				State Dept Briefing			Harlem Heights
4:00	The Jay Leno Show	7th Heaven "Crazy"		Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Muffin Tops"		Rock of Love With Bret Michaels
4:30						Around the Services	Friends	College Football Live	
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies	(35) Movie "A Raisin in the Sun" (2008, Drama) Sean Combs, Phylicia Rashad.	The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Final Score	All Hands TV	Namaste Yoga	Sports	SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
5:30	Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien	Rolie Polie Olie			Headline News	Recon	Total Body Sculpt With Glad		

News

Sports

Weather

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

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Military News

Sports

Weather

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Autos for Sale 141

Atsugi - 1991 GMC SYCLONE. All Wheel Drive Turbo Charged Truck, very rare, 310HP. Only 2900 ever made, very clean, runs great, 63,000 miles, new rims and tires, rear disc brake conversion, many upgrades. Ready to go back to the USA. Asking \$9500. call Tony 0803350521, 264-5246.

Negishi, Japan - Clean, Non Smoking 1995 Nissan Joy, Blue Station Wagon w/ luggage rack. Seats 7, 4 cylinder, automatic trans, cold AC, runs great. Excellent gas mileage. 500 Y-plate equals cheap road tax. Base inspection and JCI good until 2011. Asking \$1,000. Will deliver to area bases. Call 090 3915 3575.

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Honda Legend 4-door luxury sedan dark green color. Working AC and heater, the car comes with Kenwood MP3/WMA CD stereo and Chrome rims, spacious trunk space. JCI expires mid-October, 2009. Asking \$200 OBO MUST SELL ASAP. Will consider any offers. Please call 225-3690, ask for James or 080-6684-2680

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Mitsubishi Pajero 2DR Diesel Looking to sell my 2 door Pajero 2.5L Turbo diesel. Automatic, pretty solid truck, not the prettiest body around, but far from the ugliest mechanically sound. 167000 KM on it 4" body lift, 33" BF Goodrich Mud Terrains No good offer refuse, resellers and exporters, & junkers welcome. JCI until March 2010 asking \$3000 OBO Please call 080-3538-0545

Yokota, Japan - Be Original. Own a VIP. My lost or gain Full Loaded. A must to drive. Smooth and classy my lost your willing to negotiate. JCI until March 2011 please call 090-6630-9557 or email jryram@gmail.com

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Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Subaru Legacy 5-speed update White-5-speed-Sunroof-Interior and exterior in good condition. Kenwood head unit-130xxx km. Almost stock. Only extras are exhaust, ten adjustable suspension and a vacuum gauge. Price is negotiable. JCI until Nov. 2009. Asking \$2100 OBO You can contact me on my cell 080-4053-9239 or home 8583686861. You can also e-mail me at johnathan.mckee@yokota.af.mil Thanks.

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Toyota Altezza (IS 300 LEXUS) inline 6 -power steering -new tires -new headlights -premium sound system (6 speakers, two 12 inch subs) -clean car inside and out -automatic transmission -great air conditioning and heating -JCI till 2011 asking \$3000 obo please call 901-273-9895 or email michael.payne90@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 93 Toyota Sprinter \$900 must sell Blue. 4door Automatic, Great A/C, and Heater. Very Reliable car. I've never had any problems with it. The paint on the roof is cracked, and the body has a few minor dings. JCI until Aug. 2010 if you can get past the cosmetics I can get the car for \$2,900 obo. Call 720-257-6813 (H) or 080-6566-4443 (C)

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Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - '97 Honda StepWagon JCI expire May 2011 Nice family car Sits 7 people comfortably Power windows/Locks 5 disc CD player cold A/C Front/Back PCS in Nov ready to make a deal 500 plate (cheap road tax) Runs great! Very reliable Asking \$2000 OBO 090-1347-0394

Yokota, Japan - Crown Royal - For Sale Beautiful Car in excellent condition. Power everything Climate / cruise control. Dual airbags, recent maintenance, new tires, battery, brake pads. 18" custom wheels, 2nd set of Crown stock wheels (Goodyear 205/65 - 15R) Sony AM/FM/CD/MP3 player. Reclining back seats JCI until August 2011, asking \$3300 Please call 509-343-0822 or email dolbym@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Honda Ascot Innova 2 yrs JCI/500 Plate Just passed all safety, clean exterior/interior, remote start for the winter, aftermarket CD/MP3 player,

STRIPE'S CLASSIFIED

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - garden (west housing) home fence and awning for 2 story garden house. Professionally built July 2009. Paid \$2500; great condition PCS in November ready to sell today. Asking \$2000 obo still in the ground, you must come and get it. Call or e-mail me for address. 090-1347-0394

Yokota, Japan - Weber charcoal grill great grill in excellent condition, I changed to gas asking \$20. Please Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Pets 820

Yokota, Japan - German shepherd - Leonia's is a 1 yr old pure breed German shepherd. He's crate trained and house broken. He's a house dog but needs a yard to run around in which I don't have/can't provide him. He loves to take walks and is very loving, a good listener, and will take all the attention he can get. He has been neutered. I have his crate, toys, food, treats, etc that will come with him. Asking \$250 Please call 080-3588-1641

Yokota, Japan - Maltese Puppy with Pedigree 9mos old male Maltese needs new family. I am leaving country and can't take him. He is full of energy and fun loves to play and is potty trained, he has toys and all his other stuff contact Dave for more info 090-721-01052

Yokota, Japan - Saltwater Fish-free to a good home! We are leaving Japan in December and need to find a good home for our saltwater fish - 1 small clown fish, 2 small chromes, 1 yellow tail damsel and 2 hermit crabs. They have all lived happily together for 1.5 years, so we would like to keep them together if possible! Please contact 080-3421-0272

Pet Accessories 822

Yokota, Japan - Live rock for Saltwater Aquarium for sale We are due to leave Japan in December and are selling the live rock from our aquarium. We have an estimated 30-40lbs of it, all bought here in Japan at a total cost of over \$400. Live rock here is very expensive! There are 7 very good quality large live rocks (lots of purple algae), 4 semi-live (we seeded them ourselves and they are covered in life), plus smaller live and semi-live rocks. Asking \$200 OBO Please call 080-3421-0272

Photography 830

Yokota, Japan - Digital Camera Panasonic DMC-LZ2 6.0 MP with 6X Optical Zoom - 2" LCD Display - SD Card Compatible - Requires 2 AA Batteries - Comes with USB Connect Cable and Icon Carrying Case Asking \$40 Please call 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

Real Estate 850

Moving to Ft Bragg/Pope AFB NC? 4BR/3BA "Gates Four" home in Jack Britt School District, gated golf community, sorry no pets, avail 1 Jan 10, \$1600/mo. http://ourNHome.ttpod.com.

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Brand New Nike Maginirip CL Vapor Trail Glove Tired of trying to catch those sketchy passes in the rain and just can't stand it? Want interceptions? Want your pass routes to be worth it? Well, I'm selling a pair of Nike football gloves, that will increase your chances of catching or receiving a pass. I wore them only once to practice and loved them, but due to me having to end my football season early, I was unable to enjoy them more. So, you should take this opportunity and buy some awesome gloves. Asking \$17 Please call 1-216-619-8570 or email sk8er41fe9179@yahoo.com

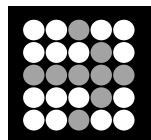
Yokota, Japan - Elliptical Like new elliptical. Only used a few times I don't want to throw it away. Asking \$75 Please call 1-901-273-9909 or email qhebayemail@aol.com

Yokota, Japan - Oakley Football Visor For Sale I'm Selling a beautiful and only worn once, Oakley Football helmet Visor. It is good for field regulations and rules. It has a dark tint, but still clears enough for the opponent to see your rage. -p Retail price is at \$49.99 willing to sell for \$27 please call 1-216-619-8570 or email sk8er41fe9179@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Pro-Form Elliptical Trainer Excellent condition, built in CD player, grip pulse sensor and more. Asking \$450 Please call Theresa 425-274-4350

Yokota, Japan - Vans Tara Dakides Snowboard Boots (Women's size 9 US - 6.5 UK - 40 EUR - 26 CM) In Excellent/Like New Condition Asking \$60 Please call 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Tuesday
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB playoffs: NL Division Series, Game 4, Philadelphia at Colorado (dld).
AFN-Sports, 8:30 p.m.—NFL: N.Y. Jets at Miami (dld).

Wednesday
AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—NFL: N.Y. Jets at Miami (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—NHL: Detroit at Buffalo if MLB Game 5 is not necessary.
AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—MLB playoffs: NL Division Series, Game 5, Colorado at Philadelphia, if necessary.

AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.—College football: Arkansas State at Louisiana-Monroe if MLB Game 5 is necessary.
AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—College football: Arkansas State at Louisiana-Monroe if MLB Game 5 is not necessary.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB playoffs: NL Division Series, Game 5, Colorado at Philadelphia, if necessary (dld).
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—College football: Arkansas State at Louisiana-Monroe if MLB Game 5 is not necessary (dld).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—NFL RePLAY: Game 1, teams TBD (dld, 90-minute cut-down).
AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.—NFL RePLAY: Game 2, teams TBD (dld, 90-minute cut-down).

Thursday
AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—NHL: Pittsburgh at Carolina.
AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—College football: Boise State at Tulsa.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLS: New York at Real Salt Lake.
AFN-Xtra, 1 p.m.—Motorcycle racing: AMA Motocross Lites, Budds Creek (dld).

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—College football: Boise State at Tulsa (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—NFL RePLAY: Game 3, teams TBD (dld, 90-minute cut-down).

AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.—NFL RePLAY: Game 4, teams TBD (dld, 90-minute cut-down).
All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Pro basketball

NBA preseason				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	3	0	1.000	—
Boston	2	1	.667	1
Toronto	2	2	.500	1½
New York	1	1	.500	1½
New Jersey	0	3	.000	3
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	3	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	1	1	.500	1½
Charlotte	1	2	.333	2
Washington	1	2	.333	2
Miami	0	3	.000	3
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	3	0	1.000	—
Cleveland	2	0	1.000	½
Chicago	2	1	.667	1
Indiana	1	2	.333	2
Milwaukee	1	2	.333	2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	2	1	.667	—
Houston	2	1	.667	—
San Antonio	1	1	.500	½
Memphis	1	2	.333	1
New Orleans	1	2	.333	1
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	2	1	.667	—
Denver	2	2	.500	½
Minnesota	1	1	.500	½
Utah	1	1	.500	½
Oklahoma City	0	2	.000	1½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	3	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	1	1	.500	1
L.A. Lakers	1	1	.500	1
Phoenix	0	1	.000	1½
Sacramento	0	2	.000	2

Saturday's games
New Orleans 88, Oklahoma City 79
Cleveland 102, Charlotte 96
Milwaukee 98, Chicago 86
Golden State 104, Phoenix 101
Sunday's games
Denver 128, Indiana 112
Boston 100, New Jersey 93
Toronto 100, Washington 93
San Antonio 95, Miami 93
Detroit 100, Atlanta 91
Dallas 114, Memphis 107
Monday's games
Olympiacos at Cleveland
Charlotte at Atlanta
Orlando at Memphis
Phoenix at Oklahoma City
Milwaukee at Houston
Golden State at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday's games
Boston at New Jersey
Washington vs. Detroit at Grand Rapids, Mich.
Philadelphia at New York
Milwaukee at Chicago
Orlando vs. New Orleans at Wichita, Kan.

Tennis

Shanghai Masters 1000
Monday
At Qizhong Tennis Center
Shanghai, China
Purse: \$5.25 million (Masters 1000)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Thomaz Bellucci, Brazil, def. Marco Chiudinelli, Switzerland, 7-6 (3), 6-4.
James Blake, United States, def. Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Tommy Robredo, Spain, def. Michael Llodra, France, 6-1, 6-4.
David Ferrer (16), Spain, def. Richard Gasquet, France, 6-4, 6-3.
Florian Mayer, Germany, def. Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 6-3, 6-2.
Stanislav Wawrinka, Switzerland, def. Lukasz Kubot, Poland, 2-6, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (3).
Rainer Schuettler, Germany, def. Martin Vassallo Arguello, Argentina, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (2).
Fernando Gonzalez (10), Chile, def. Mischa Zverev, Germany, 7-5, 6-7 (0), 2-2, retired.
Radek Stepanek (13), Czech Republic, def. Juan Carlos Ferrero, Spain, 6-3, 6-0.
Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Ernests Gulbis, Latvia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Marat Safin, Russia, def. Gong Mao-Xin, China, 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles
First Round
Simon Aspelin, Sweden, and Paul Hanley, Australia, def. Jeff Coetzee, South Africa, and Stephen Huss, Australia, 4-6, 6-3, 11-9 tiebreak.
Benjamin Becker and Tommy Haas, Germany, def. Li Zhe and Wang Yu Jr., China, 7-6 (5), 6-0, 4-6.
Frantisek Cermak, Czech Republic, and Michal Mertinak, Slovakia, def. Martin Damm, Czech Republic, and Robert Lindstedt, Sweden, 4-6, 7-6 (4), 11-9 tiebreak.
Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco, Spain, def. Juan Monaco, Argentina, and Tommy Robredo, Spain, 7-5, 7-6 (5).

HP Open
Monday
At Utsbo Tennis Center
Osaka, Japan
Purse: \$220,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Sania Mirza, India, def. Shahar Peer (5), Israel, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Katie O'Brien, Britain, def. Alexa Glatch, United States, 6-3, 6-4.
Viktoria Kuznetsov, Ukraine, def. Maria Kirilenko, Russia, 6-2, retired.
Francesca Schiavone (4), Italy, def. Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, 7-5, 6-2.
Mathilde Johansson, France, def. Yaroslava Shvedova (8), Kazakhstan, 7-5, 2-6, 7-5.
Melinda Cink (7), Hungary, def. Ryoko Fuda, Japan, 6-4, 6-4.
Doubles
First Round
Jill Craybas, United States, and Tamarine Tanasugarn (4), Thailand, def. Angela Haynes, United States, and Hsu Wen-hsin, Taiwan, 6-4, 6-2.

Deals

Sunday's transactions
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
ANAHIME DUCKS—Recalled D Brendan Mikkelson from Toronto (AHL).
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Reassigned RW Jack Skille to Rockford (AHL).
NEW YORK RANGERS—Reassigned G Miika Wiikman from Charlotte (ECHL) to Hartford (AHL).
PHOENIX COYOTES—Re-assigned F Francis Lessard to San Antonio (AHL).
SAN JOSE SHARKS—Assigned F Frazer McLaren to Worcester (AHL).
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned D Tyson Strachan to Peoria (AHL).
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled F Guillaume Desbiens from Manitoba (AHL).
COLLEGE
MICHIGAN—Suspended CB Boubacarr Cissoko indefinitely for violating team rules.

TANK McNAMARA



Auto racing

Pepsi 500
Sunday
At Auto Club Speedway
Fontana, Calif.
Lap length: 2 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
1. (3) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 250 laps, 148.5 rating, 195 points, \$302,801.
2. (10) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 250, 117.2, 175, \$211,426.
3. (4) Juan Pablo Montoya, Chevrolet, 250, 128.6, 170, \$195,773.
4. (9) Mark Martin, Chevrolet, 250, 114.8, 165, \$136,625.
5. (20) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 250, 92, 160, \$143,248.
6. (11) Carl Edwards, Ford, 250, 98.2, 150, \$158,356.
7. (31) David Ragan, Ford, 250, 83.3, 146, \$117,500.
8. (24) Kurt Busch, Dodge, 250, 102.6, 147, \$121,925.
9. (8) Clint Bowyer, Chevrolet, 250, 88.7, 138, \$113,950.
10. (7) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 250, 104.8, 134, \$142,828.
11. (16) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 250, 94.2, 130, \$121,525.
12. (22) Sam Hornish Jr., Dodge, 250, 72.9, 127, \$120,810.
13. (17) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 250, 79.3, 124, \$144,340.
14. (6) Joey Logano, Toyota, 250, 80.3, 121, \$104,951.
15. (36) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 250, 72.7, 118, \$128,054.
16. (4) David Stremme, Dodge, 250, 56.6, 115, \$131,215.
17. (34) Michael Waltrip, Toyota, 250, 51.9, 112, \$105,575.
18. (42) David Reutimann, Toyota, 250, 67.2, 109, \$121,348.
19. (40) John Andretti, Chevrolet, 250, 48.7, 100, \$104,000.
20. (2) Greg Biffle, Ford, 250, 90.9, 103, \$113,400.
21. (21) Scott Speed, Toyota, 249, 58.6, 100, \$109,373.
22. (5) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 249, 80.8, 102, \$129,240.
23. (27) Marcos Ambrose, Toyota, 249, 63.5, 94, \$106,773.
24. (19) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 248, 57.7, 91, \$138,098.
25. (37) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 248, 83.7, 88, \$108,450.
26. (35) Bobby Labonte, Ford, 247, 43.6, 85, \$120,279.
27. (41) Paul Menard, Ford, 247, 46.4, 82, \$122,906.
28. (26) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 247, 44.3, 79, \$91,875.
29. (32) Brian Vickers, Toyota, 246, 62, 76, \$117,598.
30. (18) Jeff Burton, Chevrolet, accident, 245, 72.7, 73, \$136,531.
31. (28) Reed Sorenson, Dodge, accident, 244, 57.6, 70, \$126,526.
32. (39) Elliott Sadler, Dodge, accident,

Pro soccer

MLS
Eastern Conference
W L T Pts GF GA
y-Columbus 13 5 10 49 41 29
Chicago 10 7 11 41 38 34
New England 10 10 8 38 32 37
Toronto FC 9 10 9 36 36 41
D.C. 8 8 12 36 40 42
Kansas City 8 12 8 32 29 37
New York 4 18 6 18 22 45
Western Conference
W L T Pts GF GA
x-Houston 12 8 8 44 36 27
x-Los Angeles 11 6 11 44 34 31
Chivas USA 13 9 5 44 30 25
Seattle 10 7 11 41 33 26
Colorado 10 8 10 40 41 33
FC Dallas 10 12 6 36 47 44
Real Salt Lake 9 11 7 34 38 34
San Jose 7 13 8 29 34 46
NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.
x- clinched playoff berth
y- clinched conference
Saturday's games
San Jose 1, Toronto FC 1, tie
Columbus 1, New England 0
Chivas USA 2, Kansas City 0
Wednesday's games
New York at Real Salt Lake
Saturday's games
Real Salt Lake at Toronto FC
Chicago at New England
Columbus at D.C. United
Seattle FC at Kansas City
Colorado at FC Dallas
San Jose at Chivas USA

244, 47.3, 67, \$97,100.
33. (12) AJ Allmendinger, Dodge, accident, 244, 57, \$123,050.
34. (25) Kasey Kahne, Dodge, accident, 244, 72.4, 61, \$131,448.
35. (15) Max Papis, Toyota, 244, 29.8, 58, \$89,950.
36. (29) Jamie McMurray, Ford, 209, 44.1, 55, \$96,900.
37. (1) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, accident, 195, 95.8, 57, \$123,050.
38. (38) Robby Gordon, Toyota, accident, 121, 42.1, 49, \$107,560.
39. (13) Joe Nemechek, Toyota, electrical, 29, 31.6, 46, \$88,750.
40. (43) Michael McDowell, Toyota, overheating, 25, 27.9, 43, \$88,700.
41. (33) Dave Blaney, Toyota, overheating, 22, 33.4, 40, \$88,655.
42. (20) David Gilliland, Chevrolet, overheating, 13, 30.6, 37, \$88,590.
43. (23) Mike Bliss, Dodge, engine, 11, 25.2, 34, \$88,180.
Race Statistics
Average Speed of Race Winner: 143.908 mph.
Time of Race: 3 hours, 28 minutes, 28 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 1.603 seconds.
Caution Flags: 8 for 30 laps.
Lead Changes: 29 among 9 drivers.
Lap Leaders: D.Hamlin 1-10; J.Johnson 11-24; J.Montoya 25-39; Ku.Busch 40-41; J.Johnson 42-43; J.Montoya 44-60; J.Johnson 61; J.Montoya 62-64; D.Hamlin 65-67; M.Martin 68-72; J.Montoya 73-81; J.Johnson 82; M.Truxex Jr. 83-86; J.Montoya 87-114; J.Johnson 115-118; J.Andretti 119; D.Hamlin 120-124; J.Johnson 125-159; J.Montoya 160; J.Gordon 161; T.Stewart 162; J.Johnson 164-186; D.Hamlin 187-189; J.Montoya 190-194; J.Johnson 195-227; Ku.Busch 228; T.Stewart 229-233; J.Johnson 234-238; J.Gordon 239-243; J.Johnson 244-250.
Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): J.Johnson, 10 times for 126 laps; J.Montoya, 7 times for 78 laps; D.Hamlin, 4 times for 21 laps; J.Gordon, 2 times for 6 laps; T.Stewart, 2 times for 6 laps; M.Martin, 1 time for 5 laps; M.Truxex Jr., 1 time for 4 laps; Ku.Busch, 2 times for 3 laps; J.Andretti, 1 time for 1 lap.
Top 12 in Points: 1. J.Johnson, 5,728; 2. M.Martin, 5,716; 3. J.Montoya, 5,670; 4. T.Stewart, 5,644; 5. J.Gordon, 5,623; 6. Ku.Busch, 5,607; 7. G.Biffle, 5,540; 8. C.Edwards, 5,536; 9. D.Hamlin, 5,509; 10. R.Newman, 5,505; 11. K.Kahne, 5,422; 12. B.Vickers, 5,377.

NASCAR Driver Rating Formula
A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.
The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While on Lead Lap, Average Speed Under Green, Fastest Lap, Led Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.
Golf
Presidents Cup
Sunday
At Harding Park Golf Course
San Francisco
Yardage: 7,137; Par: 71
UNITED STATES 19%, INTERNATIONAL 14%
Singles
United States 7, International 5
Hunter Mahan, United States, def. Camilo Villegas, International, 2 and 1.
Stewart Cink, United States, def. Adam Scott, International, 4 and 3.
Mike Weir, International, halved with Justin Leonard, United States.
Anthony Kim, United States, def. Robert Allenby, International, 5 and 3.
Geoff Ogilvy, International, def. Steve Stricker, United States, 2 and 1.
Sean O'Hair, United States, def. Ernie Els, International, 6 and 4.
Ryo Ishikawa, International, def. Kenny Perry, United States, 2 and 1.
Tim Clark, International, def. Zach Johnson, United States, 4 and 3.
Tiger Woods, United States, def. Y.E. Yang, International, 6 and 5.
Vijay Singh, International, halved with Lucas Glover, United States.
Phil Mickelson, United States, def. Retief Goosen, International, 2 and 1.
Angel Cabrera, International, def. Jim Furyk, United States, 4 and 3.

College football

AP Top 25
The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 10, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Florida (50)	5-0	1,490	1
2. Alabama (10)	6-0	1,430	3
3. Texas	5-0	1,395	2
4. Virginia Tech	5-1	1,283	5
5. Boise St.	5-0	1,199	6
6. Southern Cal	4-1	1,161	7
7. Ohio St.	5-1	1,048	9
8. Cincinnati	5-0	1,038	8
9. Miami	4-1	970	15
10. Houston	5-1	947	4
11. Iowa	6-0	919	12
12. TCU	5-0	917	10
13. Oregon	5-1	776	13
14. Penn St.	4-1	597	14
15. Nebraska	5-1	576	21
16. Oklahoma St.	5-1	559	16
17. Kansas	5-0	551	16
18. BYU	5-1	490	18
19. Georgia Tech	5-1	453	22
20. Oklahoma	3-2	432	19
21. South Florida	5-0	330	23
22. South Carolina	5-1	330	25
23. Houston	4-1	192	—
24. Utah	4-1	76	—
25. Notre Dame	4-1	75	—

Others receiving votes: Pittsburgh 58, Auburn 55, West Virginia 46, Mississippi 28, Wisconsin 27, Missouri 25, Arkansas 26, Cent. Michigan 6, Arizona 5, Michigan 5, Oregon St. 2, Idaho 1, Navy 1, Stanford 1, Texas Tech 1.

USA Today Top 25
The USA Today Top 25 football coaches poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 10, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Rk
1. Florida (53)	5-0	1,468	1
2. Texas (1)	5-0	1,402	2
3. Alabama (5)	6-0	1,378	3
4. Virginia Tech	5-1	1,241	5
5. Southern California	4-1	1,175	7
6. Boise State	5-0	1,170	6
7. Ohio State	5-1	1,122	8
8. TCU	5-0	979	10
9. Cincinnati	5-0	973	10
10. LSU	5-1	944	4
11. Miami (Fla.)	4-1	847	11
12. Iowa	6-0	785	14
13. Penn State	5-1	782	12
14. Oklahoma State	4-1	676	13
15. Kansas	5-0	640	15
16. Oregon	5-1	620	17
17. Nebraska	4-1	491	22
18. Oklahoma	3-2	447	21
19. Brigham Young	5-1	441	20
20. Georgia Tech	5-1	420	23
21. South Florida	5-0	305	24
22. South Carolina	5-1	279	NR
23. Houston	4-1	96	NR
24. Missouri	4-1	90	18
25. Notre Dame	4-1	76	NR

Others receiving votes: Auburn 73, Mississippi 60, Pittsburgh 57, Utah 49, Wisconsin 37, West Virginia 13, Arkansas 12, Oklahoma State 8, Stanford 8, Central Michigan 7, Michigan 2, North Carolina 1, UCLA 1.

Harris Top 25
The Top 25 teams in the Harris Interactive College Football Poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 10, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Florida (99)	5-0	2,831	1
2. Alabama (13)	6-0	2,684	3
2. Texas (2)	5-0	2,684	2
4. Virginia Tech	5-1	2,386	6
5. Boise State	5-0	2,274	5
6. USC	4-1	2,250	7
7. Ohio State	5-1	2,073	8
8. Cincinnati	5-0	1,935	9
9. LSU	5-1	1,905	4
10. TCU	5-0	1,805	10
11. Iowa	6-0	1,697	11
12. Miami (FL)	4-1	1,627	12
13. Penn State	5-1	1,371	13
14. Oregon	5-1	1,350	15
15. Oklahoma State	4-1	1,186	14
16. Kansas	5-0	1,141	16
17. BYU	5-1	963	17
18. Oklahoma	3-2	883	20
19. Nebraska	4-1	869	21
20. Georgia Tech	5-1	771	22
21. South Florida	5-0	691	24
22. South Carolina	5-1	481	NR
23. Houston	4-1	252	NR
24. Auburn	5-1	164	19
25. Notre Dame	4-1	142	NR

Other teams receiving votes: Utah 119, Mississippi 96, Mississippi 90, Wisconsin 90, Pittsburgh 75, West Virginia 50, Arkansas 32, Michigan 22, Oregon State 21, Idaho 8, Stanford 7, Central Michigan 6, California 4, Connecticut 4, Michigan State 4, Tennessee 2, Navy 1.

Boxing

Fight schedule
Oct. 17
At Berlin, Arthur Abraham, Germany, vs. Jermain Taylor, Little Rock, Ark., 12, super middleweights.
At Chiapas, Mexico, Cristobal Cruz, Mexico, vs. Ricardo Castillo, Mexico, 12, for Cruz's IBF featherweight title.

Sports briefs

Sharpton asks NFL to block Limbaugh bid

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Rev. Al Sharpton wants the National Football League to block conservative radio host Rush Limbaugh from bidding on the St. Louis Rams.

Sharpton sent a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on Monday. He said Limbaugh has been divisive and "anti-NFL" in some of his comments.

Limbaugh did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday.

Limbaugh said last week that he is teaming up with St. Louis Blues hockey team owner Dave Checketts in a bid to buy the Rams. He has declined to discuss details of the offer, citing a confidentiality agreement.

In 2003, Limbaugh worked briefly on ESPN's NFL pregame show. He resigned after saying Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb was overrated because the media wanted to see a black quarterback succeed.

OU's Broyles not ruled out for Texas

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops says leading receiver Ryan Broyles "has not been ruled out" for No. 20 Oklahoma's game Saturday against No. 3 Texas.

Broyles missed last week's game against Baylor after suffering a hairline fracture in his left shoulder blade the previous week in the Sooners' 21-20 loss at Miami.

He had been expected to miss 2-4 weeks because of the injury.

Despite missing most of the past two games, Broyles leads Oklahoma with 23 catches for 346 yards and seven TDs.

Cubs file for bankruptcy protection

NEW YORK — The Chicago Cubs baseball team filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Monday, a step that will allow its corporate parent to sell the team in an \$845 million deal.

The filing was anticipated and is expected to lead to a brief stay in Chapter 11 for the Cubs.

It comes as part of the Tribune Co.'s plans to sell the team, Wrigley Field and related properties to the family of billionaire Joe Ricketts, the founder of TD Ameritrade.

The team's run through Chapter 11 is expected to protect its new owners from potential claims by Tribune creditors.

U.S. women win tourney in Russia

EKATERINBURG, Russia — Angel McCoughtry scored 20 points to lead the U.S. women's basketball team past UMMC Ekaterinburg 78-63 on Sunday to win a pre-world championships tournament.

The Americans put the game away with a 23-0 run spanning halftime.

Swin Cash scored 13 points, Sue Bird 11 and Tina Charles 10 for the U.S. (3-0), which swept through the tournament after a six-day training camp in Washington D.C. It was a rare chance for the Americans to train before the world championships next year.

The U.S. trailed 33-30 midway through the second quarter before scoring the last 17 points of the half for a 47-33 advantage at the break. Shameka Christon opened the third quarter with consecutive three-

pointers to push the advantage to 53-33.

Sandrine Gruda scored 15 points to lead UMMC Ekaterinburg (2-1).

"We knew it was going to be a difficult game because of how good they are, the crowd and being home, and we were missing two of our really important players," U.S. coach Geno Auriemma said. "But I can't be more proud and excited for the players on our team, how well we played."

Candace Parker was sidelined with a dislocated shoulder suffered in the opening game of the tournament. Asjha Jones, who played for the U.S. in the first two games of the tournament, played for UMMC Ekaterinburg on Sunday, since she's under contract to the club this winter. She finished with six points.

"It was all about the defense," McCoughtry said. "We played good 'D,' they were tired, we got rebounds and ran."

Blake advances in Shanghai Masters

SHANGHAI — James Blake rallied to defeat Ivo Karlovic of Croatia 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-3 on Monday in the first round of the Shanghai Masters.

The American, whose serve was broken early in the first set, won the second when Karlovic sent a forehand wide in the tiebreaker.

"I didn't have very good momentum at the start," said Blake, who recently started working with coach Kelly Jones. "The third set, I liked the way, when I did get my racket on it, how I was playing."

Despite serving 27 aces in the match, Karlovic allowed Blake to break serve in

the third and ninth games of the third set.

Karlovic, who holds the record for serving 78 aces in a match during a five-set loss to Radek Stepanek in the Davis Cup semifinals last month, double-faulted on the final point.

Spanish players Tommy Robredo and David Ferrer advanced to the second round with straight-set victories. The 14th-seeded Robredo, who won 29 of 31 points on his first serve and didn't face a break point, beat French qualifier Michael Llodra 6-1, 6-4. Ferrer topped Richard Gasquet 6-4, 6-3.

Fernando Gonzalez of Chile, seeded 10th, advanced when Mischa Zverev of Germany retired with an injured right wrist with the score 7-5, 6-7 (0), 2-2.

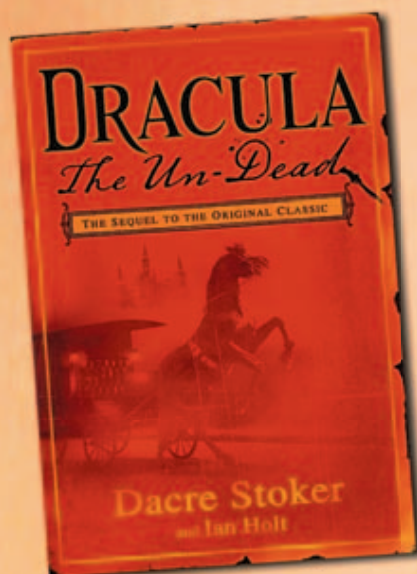
Former Grand Slam champion Marat Safin, coming off of a quarterfinal showing at Beijing last week, beat Chinese wild-card Gong Maoxin 6-4, 6-4.

Massa takes first test drive since crash

FIORANO, Italy — Ferrari driver Felipe Massa took his first test drive in a Formula One car since a life-threatening accident and said Monday he's back to being the driver he was before.

"It went well," Massa said. "I felt fine physically and it felt like the accident never happened."

Massa was knocked unconscious by a loose car part in qualifying for the Hungarian Grand Prix in July and crashed. He injured his left eye area and required surgery and later had a metal plate inserted.



Stripes

Sound Bites

Did someone say bite me?

Stars and Stripes is calling out for all of our most twisted, ghoulish readers to compete in the 2009 Stripes Sound Bites promotion!

Give voice to your inner vampire this Halloween season—and capture it on video to share with your fellow Un-Dead.

We're looking for everything from the spooky to the spoofy, scary or hairy, funny or ghastly.

Just go to Stripes.com and upload your best vampire impression video where it says "Submit Sound Bite." It's so easy... like slipping your fangs into an artery. Come back then, and view your fellow vampires, vote for your favorites and get your Un-Dead family and friends to vote, too!

The frighteningly lucky vampire wannabe who receives the most votes will win the Grand Prize and fly off (with the victim of his choice) to gloomy Transylvania AND a signed copy of Dacre Stoker's new book DRACULA THE UN-DEAD. Ten additional Prize Winners will also receive signed copies of DRACULA THE UN-DEAD, courtesy of Stripes Book Club!

Promotion ends at the stroke of midnight on October 31, 2009.



Stripes Book Club



Penguin Group (USA)

Must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. Government ID cardholder to enter and win. No purchase necessary. All entries must be received by midnight on October 31, 2009. See official rules on Stripes.com.

Receiving—Indianapolis, Addai 10-53, Clark 9-77, Collie 8-97, Wayne 6-60, Brown 2-13, Garcon 1-9. **Tennessee**, Scaife 4-45, Washington 2-27, Cook 2-27, Overmire 2-14.

Broncos surprise Pats to stay undefeated

McDaniel notches win over mentor Belichick in OT

By EDDIE PELLIS
The Associated Press

DENVER — The offseason's best soap opera has become the regular season's biggest surprise. Not even Denver's mustard-yellow uniforms and vertically striped socks could put a damper on that.

On a Sunday afternoon that showcased the Broncos colorful history as well as their promising present, Kyle Orton led a 98-yard drive in the fourth quarter to tie the game, then Matt Prater kicked a 41-yard field goal in overtime for a 20-17 victory over New England.

Denver coach Josh McDaniels got the win over his former boss and mentor, Bill Belichick. The Broncos improved to 5-0 for the first time since 1998. They have made it to the Super Bowl the other four times they've won their first five — and after this latest win, anything seems possible.

"The guys in this locker room believe, the coaches believe, guys believe in each other and are fighting," defensive lineman Vonnie Holliday said.

McDaniels wore a hoodie, while Belichick went with a parka on a 30-degree day in Denver. When it was over, the rookie Denver coach waved to his ex-boss, then started fist-pumping in the corner of the stadium, near where his family sits.

"I'm happy for him," Broncos safety Brian Dawkins said. "All the crap he had to take going into the season all the way up to this game. I'm very happy where he has us as a team and the ball we're playing because of it."

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the AFL, the Patriots (3-2) came out in their white uniforms with red, white and blue trim, and the classic minutemen



CHRIS SCHNEIDER/AP

Denver Broncos wide receiver Brandon Marshall (15) dives into the end zone for a touchdown between New England Patriots linebacker Jerod Mayo (51) and cornerback Leigh Bodden (23) during the fourth quarter Sunday in Denver. The touchdown capped a 98-yard drive and tied the game, which Denver won in overtime, 20-17.

helmets.

The Broncos — their jerseys were the color of a Butterfinger wrapper and their socks were vertically striped, brown and yellow.

Decades ago, the team destroyed those uniforms in a bonfire.

But on Sunday, the Broncos played better than they looked.

For those with a sense of history, Orton's 98-yard, game-tying drive should ring a bell. That's the same distance John Elway led the Broncos against Cleveland in their 23-20 win in the 1987 AFC title game. That one was known as "The Drive."

This one? Maybe part of the start of something special.

This is easily Denver's most surprising season since the franchise took the field half a century ago. Even coach Red Miller's 1977 Super Bowl team — the team that

coined the term "Orange Crush" — was viewed as an up-and-comer back then, something the turmoil-wracked Broncos certainly were not heading into 2009.

"We never really thought about" being 5-0, McDaniels said. "The only thing we think is that we would try to accumulate the best football players we could. We got a good football team in that locker room and we just want to prepare each week, one game at a time."

Trailing 17-10 with 9:59 left, Orton was at his patient best during the game-tying drive that started at the 2. A 14-yard completion to Jabar Gaffney, a screen to Knowshon Moreno that sprung for 27. A 7-yard completion to Eddie Royal, who finished with 10 catches for 90 yards.

Brandon Marshall, who scored the game-winner last week against Dallas, did the honors this time, too, catching a pass

on the sideline, then spinning and breaking a tackle for an 11-yard score that tied it at 17. It was his second touchdown of the game.

The teams traded a pair of possessions around midfield to close regulation, then the Broncos won the toss and drove 58 yards to set up the winning field goal with 10:09 left in OT.

The game was billed as a matchup between coaching mentor and pupil — one of many Belichick has faced since he started winning Super Bowls and pushing young head coaches into the NFL world.

It started with some tactical games from McDaniels, who put the Broncos in the wildcat formation on their first drive and watched them rip off gains of 12, 13 and 14. Belichick called a timeout to adjust, the Broncos stalled and Prater missed a 48-yard field goal.

From there, it was exactly what both coaches promised it would be — a well-played, hard-fought game decided more by the players than the Xs and Os.

The Broncos forced Tom Brady to be patient and pick underneath, the way he has for much of this season. He went 19-for-33 for 215 yards, but only 63 of those came in the second half.

The Denver defense held New England scoreless in the second half and has allowed just 43 points in five games — one of the best starts in the league's history. And add this to the résumé: Denver handed Brady his first overtime loss. He fell to 7-1.

"Poor execution is what it comes down to," Brady said. "There were plays to be made all day and we didn't make them."

Orton, meanwhile, improved to 26-12 as an NFL starter, and the widely derided decision to anoint him the quarterback and trade away Jay Cutler still looks like a good one.

Denver's decision to choose Moreno with its first draft pick when the defense needed an overhaul also looks good. The rookie made his first start — in place of injured Correll Buckhalter — and finished with 88 yards rushing, along with the key, 27-yard catch during the tying drive.

Manning eager for rest after 3 TDs, 309 yards

By BETH RUCKER
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Peyton Manning is racking up yards, touchdowns and records while the Indianapolis Colts are dismantling opponents on both sides of the ball.

With a bye week and winless St. Louis up next, they'll probably just get better.

"I feel like we haven't been necessarily playing at full strength," Manning said. "We can get some guys back. We'll need everybody."

Safety Bob Sanders watched from the sidelines as the Colts (5-0) beat the Tennessee Titans 31-9 on Sunday night for their NFL-best 14th straight regular-season win. Cornerbacks Kelvin Hayden and Marlin Jackson and offensive tackle Charlie Johnson also sat out to rest.

Even Manning could use a break. He said he planned to see a doctor for some treatment of the left knee after a hit from Titans end Kyle Vanden Bosch. That's the knee he protects with a brace after it kept him out of the 2008



WADE PAYNE/AP

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning throws against the Tennessee Titans in the first quarter in Nashville, Tenn., Sunday. Manning passed for 309 yards and three touchdowns as the Colts improved to 5-0 with a 31-9 victory.

preseason and led to a slow start.

Tennessee (0-5) could neither slow Manning nor keep up with him as he racked up 309 yards passing and three touchdowns. The Titans had to settle for matching Manning's touchdowns with

field goals during the first half.

"To have a chance to beat the Colts the way they're playing right now you have to play close to a near perfect game, and it was clear tonight that we didn't," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said. "The disappointing thing is the formula got flipped. We were hoping to hold them to 3s and score points."

The game was a mismatch almost from the start with Manning, the three-time MVP, and the NFL's top passing offense against a defense tied for worst in the league against the pass.

Manning now has 345 touchdowns, putting him third on the career chart behind Brett Favre and Dan Marino. He joined Kurt Warner and Steve Young as the only NFL quarterbacks to throw for at least 300 yards in each of the first five games and can match their mark at six straight on Oct. 25. He also became the third quarterback in NFL history to post a passer rating of 100 or better in 70 games.

Indianapolis has not lost since its last visit to Nashville and leaves now with a firm grip on the AFC South that the Colts have

controlled in all but the two seasons Tennessee won the division.

The Titans turned in their worst offensive performance this season with 245 yards. Kerry Collins was intercepted in a ball taken away from receiver Nate Washington.

The Colts limited the NFL's leading rusher, Chris Johnson, to only 34 yards on nine carries.

"We keep getting a little bit better in some areas, and we played the run pretty well against a team that can run the ball as good as anyone," Indianapolis coach Jim Caldwell said.

Manning needed only the first of Tennessee's two turnovers to put Indianapolis ahead. Antoine Bethea knocked the ball loose from Titans tight end Alge Crumpler, and Keyunta Dawson recovered in the first.

Five plays later, Manning found Reggie Wayne on a 3-yard TD toss. Manning could have had a fourth TD in the fourth quarter but Wayne dropped a ball in the end zone.

In the second quarter, he completed each of his seven passes for 81 yards. Joseph Addai capped the drive with a 1-yard TD run.

Tennessee got two turnovers in the first quarter off a muffed punt return and Keith Bullock's interception of Manning, which he celebrated in a sign of the Titans' desperation by heaving the ball up into the stands. But the offense managed 6 and 9 yards after each turnover and settled for field goals by Rob Bironas.

The Titans responded with their best drive of the night. But Jacob Lacey, starting in place of Hayden, broke up Collins' pass to Justin Gage in the end zone, and Tennessee had to settle for Bironas' third field goal.

Manning needed just 47 seconds to give Indianapolis a 21-9 halftime lead. A 93-yard drive was helped by 30 yards of roughing the passer penalties. Kyle Vanden Bosch was flagged for grabbing Manning's legs after a throw, and Jacob Ford was called for a late hit on the quarterback.

Manning finished with a 39-yard TD toss to Austin Collie.

"It is a blast being out there with these guys learning the system and getting better before our eyes," Colts tight end Dallas Clark said.

U.S. team captain Fred Couples holds up the Presidents Cup following the closing ceremonies at Harding Park Golf Course in San Francisco on Sunday. The U.S. beat the International team 19½-14½.

MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP



Presidents Cup

Easy victory for tough U.S. team

By DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Fred Couples had his best week in golf without ever swinging a club.

The U.S. captain sat at the center of the table, lined on both sides by a dozen players who had done just about everything right in the Presidents Cup and walked away with another overwhelming victory Sunday over the International team.

Sitting next to each other were Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, who didn't lose a match all week. Woods became only the third player in the Presidents Cup to go 5-0, while Mickelson was 4-0-1 and every bit as impressive the way he raised the level of three partners.

"Basically, these guys played golf and did it all," Couples said. "I would like to say that I didn't have a whole lot to do with it."

A strong American team lived up to its reputation at Harding Park with a 19½-14½ victory, keeping their record perfect on U.S. soil and winning the gold cup for the third straight time.

"They are just one hell of a team," Ernie Els said. "We have to pretty much go back to the drawing board, because they are a pretty well-oiled team, and it's hard to beat that kind of team."

Woods and Steve Stricker became the first partnership in the Presidents Cup to win all four of their matches. Woods looked every bit the world's No. 1 player when he delivered the defining moment of these matches — on the verge of losing in foursomes Saturday, he holed a 25-foot birdie putt on the 17th and hit a 3-iron to 8 feet for an eagle that was conceded in a crucial victory.

Stricker, the No. 3 player in the world who won three times this year, pulled more than his weight in his pairings with Woods.

Mickelson was unbeaten for the second time in the past three Presidents Cup, only this was more impressive. He took Anthony Kim and Sean O'Hair along for his ride, and picked up Justin Leonard in another match on the day after Leonard missed a short

putt that might have given the International team momentum.

The top three players in the world — all Americans in every sense — combined to go 13-1-1.

Perhaps it was only fitting that the clinching putt went to Woods, the first time that's happened in the 11 times he's competed in the Presidents Cup and Ryder Cup.

Much was made about his match with Y.E. Yang, who ended one of golf's great streaks by coming from behind in the final round to beat Woods in the PGA Championship and end Woods' otherwise splendid year without a major.

That was for a major. This was only for a point.

"I tried to get my point," Woods said. "And I got my point."

He lost the first hole, and that was it. With three birdies in a five-hole stretch at the turn, he piled up the lead and kept his head down, not bothering to look at a board to do the math and realize his match would be the one that gave the Americans the winning point.

Ahead of him, British Open champion Stewart Cink earned his first outright victory of the week by cruising past Adam Scott, while Kim and O'Hair followed with blowout victories, and Hunter Mahan wore down Camilo Villegas.

Behind him, Mickelson was the last match on the course and made a birdie on the 17th for a 2 and 1 victory over Retief Goosen.

Couples never wore an ear piece attached to a radio so he could keep tabs on every player and stay abreast of every match. He wandered about Harding Park, cutting up with both teams.

His only nervous moment came Saturday night with the final pairings, when International captain Greg Norman surprised him by not loading his best players at the top. Couples was uneasy about the matches, but not for long.

"I'm sure we tried our best all week," Geoff Ogilvy said after his 2 and 1 victory over Stricker. "Coming in today, we had too much to do and the U.S. team was obviously very motivated."

Falcons snap 49ers' streak

By JANIE MCCAULEY

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Roddy White finally had the kind of game he's been waiting for, and he celebrated his biggest play in that performance with a flip in the end zone.

White received a little pep talk from Atlanta coach Mike Smith leading up to the Falcons' game with San Francisco, and he responded with a career day.

White had a 90-yard catch-and-run for a touchdown and a 31-yard TD reception, and Michael Turner ran for three scores as the Falcons flattened the 49ers 45-10 on Sunday to end San Francisco's five-game home winning streak.

"I felt like I haven't been playing well up to this point in the season," White said. "Me and coach Smith had a talk. He was like, 'You gotta get back to being yourself again. You gotta go out there and be the old Roddy. No pressure. Just go out there and play.' After we had that talk I came to practice with a new mentality and kind of got back to just doing what I do."

White finished with eight catches for a career-high and franchise-record 210 yards against the 49ers' typically stingy defense. Six of those receptions were in the first half for 185 yards as Atlanta (3-1) came out of its off week sharp and finished the day with a 477-279 advantage in yards. Matt Ryan completed 22 of 32 passes for 329 yards and two TDs and also ran for a late score.

San Francisco (3-2) flopped in its biggest test yet, falling to its worst defeat since a 41-0 loss at Kansas City on Oct. 1, 2006, under former coach Mike Nolan. Current coach Mike Singletary said his players weren't prepared.

"It will be a wake-up call for some of our players," he said.



WILLIAM COOLEY/AP

Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Roddy White (84) completes a 90-yard touchdown reception in the second quarter as San Francisco 49ers cornerback Nate Clements (22) pursues on Sunday in San Francisco. The Falcons won 45-10.

It got quiet in a hurry at Candlestick Park on a gray October afternoon — and the Niners were booed off the field at halftime trailing 35-10. Fans left in droves in the fourth quarter.

"We lost our composure," linebacker Manny Lawson said.

The 49ers failed to respond even after Singletary called timeout midway through the first quarter and brought his team together for a spirited pep talk. White scored his first touchdown on the next play, and his big day helped Atlanta to its first road victory of 2009.

Shaun Hill struggled mightily, and so did the entire San Francisco offense. Hill completed only four of his first 15 passes and finished the day 15-for-38 for 198 yards, with three sacks.

Goal-line stand saves Cardinals

By BOB BAUM

The Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — The Arizona Cardinals' offense dominated for two quarters, then vanished in the desert air.

That left it up to the defense to make the difference, and it did in the nick of time.

Houston rallied from three touchdowns down before Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie returned an interception 49 yards with 2:20 to play for the deciding score in Arizona's 28-21 victory on Sunday.

The Cardinals (2-2) held the Texans three times at the Arizona 1-yard line in the final minute to preserve their first home vic-

tory in three tries.

Rodgers-Cromartie was playing despite a broken right index finger wrapped in a cast. He had been subjected to criticism for his level of play in his second NFL season after an outstanding rookie year. Opposing teams seemed to make him their target.

"Everybody has been picking on him, talking all kinds of trash about how he hasn't been playing as well as he could have," defensive end Calais Campbell said. "He said to me, 'I'm confident, I'm going to make big plays. If they keep picking on me, they're going to regret it.' He made them regret it."

Kurt Warner was at his best

leading his team to a 21-0 halftime lead.

Then came the second half, when Arizona's offense crumbled and Houston's Matt Schaub took over.

Schaub rallied the Texans (2-3) to a 21-21 tie and had completed 11 straight passes when Rodgers-Cromartie stepped in front of intended receiver Kevin Walter.

The young Cardinals cornerback intercepted, raced down the sideline, then high-stepped the final 20 yards for the score.

"It's a play that I'll run back in my head for the next week," Schaub said, "until I get a chance to go back and make it better."

Hasselbeck returns to help rout Jaguars

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Matt Hasselbeck couldn't breathe deeply without pain last week. On Tuesday he couldn't even work out without pain medication. The next day, he finally practiced but admitted he looked "ugly."

Sunday, thanks to more marvelous medicine, Hasselbeck returned. So did his Seahawks, to their playoff-like form of two years ago.

Jacksonville was back in previous form, too — its one from 2008. Talk about ugly.

Late to the field before the game and after halftime while taking painkilling injections, Hasselbeck threw four touchdown passes, two to T.J. Houshmandzadeh, and the

Seahawks rolled to their biggest home shutout in 25 years, 41-0 over the bewildered Jaguars.

The Seahawks (2-3) were still missing seven starters, including three-fifths of their offensive line. It didn't matter: Hasselbeck was back. He brought Seattle to within a game of San Francisco for the division lead.

Season saved?

"It depends if you follow it up," coach Jim Mora said. "Our job is to validate this thing. Go out and back it up."

Hasselbeck said he felt tightness more than pain, predicting that the latter would come Monday. That's fine by his Seahawks. They don't play Arizona (2-2), the team that took their NFC West title away last season, until Sunday.

After consecutive division victories left the Jaguars a surprising 2-2, they were primed for a surge. Instead, Jacksonville absorbed its worst road shutout loss since its inaugural season of 1995.

"There wasn't much to like," coach Jack Del Rio said.

Asked when he knew he would be able to play, Hasselbeck said, "Never."

Yet, he completed 18 of 30 throws for 241 yards against the league's 31st-ranked pass defense. He exposed cornerback Rashean Mathis on three of his touchdown passes before resting in the fourth quarter.

He last threw for four touchdowns against Arizona on Dec. 9, 2007.

Chasers admit it's Johnson's title to lose

Dominant win gives three-time defending Cup champ points lead

By WILL GRAVES
The Associated Press

FONTANA, Calif. — Jimmie Johnson insists NASCAR's Chase for the championship isn't over. That his dominating victory in Sunday's Sprint Cup race at Auto Club Speedway doesn't mean his fourth straight title is in the bag.

"Just because we won the last three doesn't mean we're a shoo-in for a fourth," Johnson said.

Maybe, but there was something awfully familiar about the way Johnson controlled the final half of the 500-mile race on the 2-mile oval.

He surged past Juan Pablo Montoya, easily survived a late challenge from Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon and took over the series points lead with six races remaining in a performance that's becoming routine this time of year.

"What else can you say? They're the best out there," Gordon said. "They've won the last three championships. They're going to be hard to beat for this one. Really, unless they make a mistake, I don't see how they lose it."

Johnson's fourth victory at Fontana gave him a 12-point lead over Mark Martin heading into Saturday night's race at Charlotte. The victory was Johnson's fifth of the season, 45th of his career and 16th during the Chase.

The native Californian did his best to savor it. He enjoyed an uncharacteristically drawn-out postrace celebration at a track he likes, one that took so long he needed to be reminded to go to Victory Lane.

Juan Pablo Montoya was third, his fourth straight top-five finish since the Chase began. Yet he's failed to make up any ground on the Chase leader. He started the playoffs 40 points behind Martin, now finds himself trailing Johnson by 58.

"We have four or five in a row and I've been losing points to the leader," Montoya said. "[You're not] going to make any points on anybody. Everybody that runs good is going to be there. You just got to make sure you don't lose any."

While Johnson surged, several Chase contenders stumbled. Denny Hamlin, Kasey Kahne, Greg Biffle and Brian Vickers all saw their Chase hopes likely evaporate for good.

Hamlin was leading with 60 laps to go when he collided with Montoya on a restart. Hamlin spun into a barrier at the end of pit road and quickly drove his No. 11 Toyota back to the garage. He attempted to get back on the track after missing 25 laps but was black-flagged for not reaching minimum speed.

"I made a rookie mistake," said Hamlin,



WILL LESTER/AP

Jimmie Johnson does a burnout as he holds the checkered flag after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Pepsi 500 on Sunday at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. The three-time defending Cup champion took over the lead in the points standings.

"They've won the last three championships. They're going to be hard to beat for this one. Really, unless they make a mistake, I don't see how they lose it."

Jeff Gordon

Hendrick Motorsports driver



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Kasey Kahne (9) and Greg Biffle drive through the grass after colliding on the track with just 15 laps to go in the Pepsi 500 Sunday in Fontana, Calif.

had a bad race to get a caution to put a show on for the fans."

Tony Stewart, who vaulted back into the thick of the title hunt with a win at Kansas last week, started 20th but steadily moved into the top 10 before being penalized for going too fast while exiting the pits, sending him a lap down. Stewart apologized over the radio to crew chief Darian Grubb before scrambling to fifth.

"We were pretty fortunate to get a couple of breaks when we needed them," Stewart said.

The field would need more than that to

catch Johnson, who admitted that he was frustrated by an inability in recent weeks to close out races. He finished ninth last week at Kansas despite having arguably the best car on the track early on.

There were no such troubles this time. He didn't panic when a couple of slow pit stops cost him track position early, letting crew chief Chad Knaus make sure he got the car right.

Once Johnson did, he wasted little time taking control. He led by as much as eight seconds at one point before the cautions bunched up the field.

Montoya brought the car he used at Indianapolis in July, hoping to duplicate the dominance he showed at the Brickyard before giving the victory away with a careless pit road speeding penalty, a mistake that opened the door for Johnson to win.

Johnson needed no such charity on Sunday. He likely won't in the next two races either. He's won at Charlotte and Martinsville a combined 11 times.

"It really boils down to the fact that the tracks in the Chase are my strongest tracks," Johnson said. "Today we did a good job of it. There are still six more times to stub our toes."



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STARS AND STRIPES

NHL roundup

Avalanche wins third vs. Bruins

The Associated Press

BOSTON — David Jones scored a short-handed goal in the second period that proved to be the game-winner as the Colorado Avalanche beat the Boston Bruins 4-3 on Monday.

Marek Svatos had a tie-breaking power-play goal midway into the second period. Milan Hejduk and Scott Hannan also scored for the Avalanche (3-1-1). Craig Anderson made 29 saves.

Michael Ryder, Mark Recchi and Blake Wheeler scored as Boston (2-3) closed a season-opening homestand.

After squandering a 2-0 lead, Colorado went ahead 3-2 on Svatos' goal at 13:32 of the second period when he banged home a rebound from the edge of the crease.

About 3 minutes later, Jones collected a loose puck at center ice, skated in alone and beat goalie Tuukka Rask with a wrist shot on the glove side.

Ryder scored on a backhand shot out of a scramble with 13:36 left in the game, and had a power play in the final 5 minutes with a chance to tie it, but couldn't get a shot on goal.

Kings 2, Islanders 1: At Uniondale, N.Y., Jon Quick made 28 saves, and Anze Kopitar and Drew Doughty scored goals as Los Angeles kept New York winless. Quick, who has played every minute in the Kings' five games, was rarely tested. Los Angeles has won four straight following a season-opening, 6-3 loss to Phoenix. Quick fell 1:55 short of his fifth NHL shutout when Matt Moulson scored his second goal of the season.

New York (0-1-3) is still seeking its first victory after starting the season with three overtime losses, two by shootout. Martin Biron made 20 saves and remained one victory away from 200 in the NHL.

Kopitar scored his fourth goal of the season with 1:27 left in the second period for a 1-0 lead.

In Sunday games:

Canucks 4, Stars 3 (SO): At Vancouver, Roberto Luongo stopped shots by Brad Richards and Mike Ribeiro, while Kyle Wellwood and Ryan Kesler beat Dallas' Marty Turco at the other end in a shootout.

Rookie Jamie Benn scored his first goal with 1:33 left in regulation to pull Dallas into a tie.

Rangers 3, Ducks 0: At New York, Ales Kotalik's power-play goal snapped a third-period tie, and backup Steve Valiquette made 18 saves in New York's fourth straight victory.

New York, 4-0 since a season-opening loss at Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh, earned this victory in Sean Avery's season debut following his knee injury during training camp. Avery played his annoying style and goaded Ducks defenseman Ryan Whitney into a roughing penalty 1:34 into the third, setting up Kotalik's winning score.



DARRYL DYCK/AP

Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo makes a save Sunday during OT.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Pittsburgh	5	4	1	0	8	17	14		
N.Y. Rangers	5	4	1	0	8	17	10		
Philadelphia	5	3	1	1	7	19	15		
New Jersey	4	2	2	0	4	11	13		
N.Y. Islanders	4	0	1	3	3	9	13		

Northeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	4	3	1	0	6	11	10
Buffalo	3	2	0	1	5	4	3
Boston	5	2	3	0	4	16	19
Montreal	5	2	3	0	4	12	18
Toronto	4	0	3	1	1	10	17

Southeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	5	2	2	1	5	20	18
Atlanta	3	2	1	0	4	12	9
Tampa Bay	4	1	1	2	4	12	14
Carolina	5	2	3	0	4	13	17
Florida	4	1	3	0	2	8	17

Western Conference

Central Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Columbus	4	3	1	0	6	12	10		
Chicago	4	2	1	1	5	13	10		
Nashville	3	2	1	0	4	6	5		
Detroit	4	2	2	0	4	12	13		
St. Louis	4	2	2	0	4	12	12		

Northwest Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary	5	4	1	0	8	19	17
Edmonton	5	3	1	1	7	17	12
Vancouver	5	2	3	0	4	17	17
Minnesota	4	1	3	0	2	10	15

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	5	4	1	0	8	19	15
San Jose	5	3	2	0	6	20	17
Anaheim	5	2	2	1	5	13	13
Dallas	4	1	0	3	5	14	14
Phoenix	4	2	2	0	4	10	7

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Saturday's games

Boston 4, N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
Pittsburgh 5, Toronto 2
Ottawa 4, Atlanta 2
Anaheim 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
New Jersey 3, Florida 2
Detroit 3, Washington 2
Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 2
Los Angeles 2, St. Louis 1
Buffalo 1, Nashville 0
Chicago 4, Colorado 3, SO
Columbus 2, Phoenix 0
Edmonton 3, Montreal 2
San Jose 4, Minnesota 2

Sunday's games

N.Y. Rangers 3, Anaheim 0
Vancouver 4, Dallas 3, SO
Colorado 4, Boston 3
Los Angeles 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers
New Jersey at Washington
Pittsburgh at Ottawa
Florida at Tampa Bay
Edmonton at Nashville
Calgary at Chicago
Phoenix at San Jose

Tuesday's games

Detroit at Buffalo
Calgary at Columbus
Colorado at Toronto

Sunday
Rangers 3, Ducks 0

Anaheim	0	0	0	0
N.Y. Rangers	0	0	3	3

Third Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Kotalik 3 (Del Zotto, Gaborik), 2:14 (pp), 2, N.Y. Rangers, Anisimov 1 (Prospal, Avery), 14:22 (pp), 3, N.Y. Rangers, Girardi 1, 18:01 (en-sh).

Shots on Goal—Anaheim 1-11-6—18. N.Y. Rangers 13-11-14—38.

Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 0 of 4; N.Y. Rangers 2 of 5.
Goalies—Anaheim, Giguere 0-1-1 (37 shots-35 saves). N.Y. Rangers, Valiquette 1-0-0 (18-18).
A—18,200 (18,200). T—4:19.

Canucks 4, Stars 3 (SO)

Dallas	1	0	2	0-3
Vancouver	1	1	1	0-4

Vancouver won shootout 2-0
First Period—1, Dallas, Ribeiro 2 (Morrow, Richards), 6:09 (pp), 2, Vancouver, Kesler 2 (Samuelsson, Ehrhoff), 14:45 (pp).

Second Period—3, Vancouver, Burrows 3 (Samuelsson, H.Sedlin), 16:46 (pp).
Third Period—4, Dallas, Richards 2 (Robidas, Eriksson), 4:58, 5, Vancouver, Mitchell 2 (Bernier, H.Sedlin), 6:53, 6, Dallas, Benn 1 (Ribeiro, Morrow), 18:27.
Shootout—Dallas 0 (Richards NG, Ribeiro NG), Vancouver 2 (Wellwood G, Kesler G).

Shots on Goal—Dallas 10-9-13—35. Vancouver 9-10-5—25.

Power-play opportunities—Dallas 1 of 5; Vancouver 2 of 4.

Goalies—Dallas, Turco 0-0-3 (25 shots-22 saves). Vancouver, Luongo 2-3-0 (35-32).
A—18,810 (18,630). T—2:31.

MLB PLAYOFFS: DIVISION SERIES

Umps' oops pivotal

Blown calls set stage for Howard's sacrifice fly as Phillies win Game 3 of NLDS over Rockies

By ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press

DENVER — No blown save this time for Brad Lidge. Just another blown call by the umpires.

The Philadelphia Phillies are on the verge of winning their NL playoff series with the Colorado Rockies after a 6-5 victory that ended in the early hours Monday after a 4-hour game played mostly with the temperature in the mid-20s.

They went for the clincher Monday with Game 1 winner Cliff Lee taking on Rockies ace Ubaldo Jimenez.

"Tomorrow will be a good day to celebrate. The sun will be shining," Phillies outfielder Shane Victorino said.

Lidge, who struggled all season, got his first save since Sept. 20 when Troy Tulowitzki flied out to left, giving the Phillies a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series.

Ryan Howard's sacrifice fly off Huston Street in the top of the ninth broke a 5-5 tie. It followed Chase Utley's check-swing infield single that should have been ruled a foul ball because it hit him while he was in the batter's box. The call, however, wasn't made.

"The ball might have caught me," Utley said. "Nobody said anything so I ran hard."

Might have nothing, Street said.

"He told 'Tulo' when he got to second it hit him," Street said. "You can see on the replay it clearly hit him. It was a close play at first. On the replay Todd's foot is pretty clearly on the base."

"I didn't get too excited about it at the time because the game has to go on. You have to try to get out of the inning. That's part of the game and you understand that, but tonight it was frustrating, especially when the fly ball [by Howard] would have been the third out."

Crew chief Gerry Davis said blown calls like this one bother the umpires as much as they do everyone else.

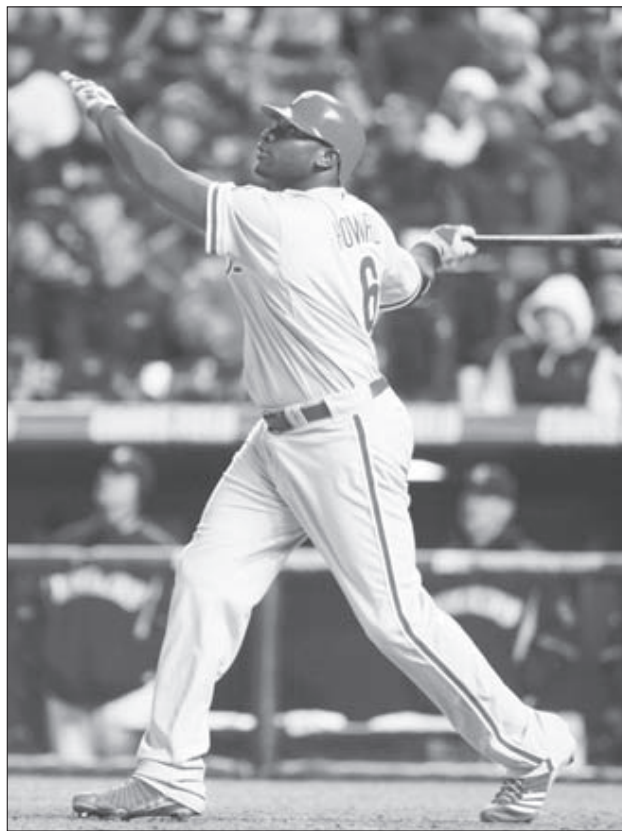
"We're judged not by excellence, but by perfection," he said. "Our job is to get every call correct. That's what we aspire to do. Perfection is very tough. That's a tough aspiration."

Homeplate umpire Jerry Meals admitted after the game that he missed the call on Utley. He said replays showed the ball indeed hit the Phils' second baseman.

"I just saw a ball hit and rolling out there and that's it," Meals said.

Umpires have had a rocky first week of the playoffs, including an admitted missed call in the eighth inning of Game 2 of the New York Yankees-Minnesota series.

With runners at first and second Sunday night, Utley tried to check his swing, only to dribble the



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Philadelphia's Ryan Howard hits the game-deciding sacrifice fly in the ninth inning Saturday against Colorado. But for a blown call on the previous play, Howard's drive would have been the third out and the score would have been tied going to the bottom of the inning.

ball up the first-base line. Street thought for sure it grazed Utley, but played the ball anyway.

"I saw it hit him. I hesitated," Street said. "But Chase took off and then I thought in my mind it's a free out. It turned out to be a tougher play ... but I still made the play."

Street fielded it on the run and lobbed the ball over Utley's head to Todd Helton at first.

The ball appeared to beat Utley to the bag — and Helton looked to have kept his foot on the bag — but first base umpire Ron Kulpa ruled Utley safe. Rockies manager Jim Tracy briefly argued before retreating to the dugout.

"The response I got was he came off the base and he was safe anyway," Tracy said.

Rollins took third on the play and scored on Howard's fly to deep center.

The save was surely sweet redemption for Lidge. He converted all 48 save chances last year, the last when he struck out Tampa Bay's Eric Hinske in Game 5 to clinch the Phillies' World Series title. But Lidge lost his perfect touch this season — he led the majors with 11 blown saves, went 0-8 with a 7.21 ERA and briefly

lost his job in September.

"He's had ups and downs," Howard said. "Right now he's here to finish games. That's what matters. I was glad to see him out there."

"When the postseason starts, it's a completely clean slate," said Lidge, who is from Denver. "It's definitely a treat to be able to play here right now, get a chance to pitch in front of family and friends."

The temperature when Rockies right-hander Jason Hammel threw the game's first pitch was a crisp 35 degrees, tying the record low set when Cleveland hosted Florida in Game 4 of the 1997 World Series. Players' breath was clearly visible as the mercury skidded into the 20s.

At least there was none of the icy mist, bitter wind, freezing rain and snow that blanketed the downtown Denver ballpark a day earlier, when the gametime temperature would have been 26 degrees.

"That might have been difficult for the Broncos to play in that yesterday, much less a baseball game," Tracy said.

MLB PLAYOFFS: DIVISION SERIES

Pitchers pass Yankees' first test

By DAVE CAMPBELL
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — CC Sabathia was superb, A.J. Burnett followed suit and Andy Pettitte added to his resume of playoff success.

While everyone was talking about Alex Rodriguez's breakthrough playoff performance, the New York Yankees got three strong starts in a row during their first-round sweep of Minnesota. And that sort of pitching is probably the key to building a run through October.

"We're good enough to get through this first round," Derek Jeter said. "But it's only going to get more difficult."

The three-game whitewash gave the Yankees a chance to line up their rotation for the AL championship series. They'll host the Los Angeles Angels in Game 1 on Friday night, sending the well-rested Sabathia to the mound with Burnett and Pettitte waiting behind him.

"People can say whatever they want about home runs and big hits. I mean, if you don't pitch and you don't defend, you're not going to win," said Rodriguez, who stopped a string of playoff failures with a huge series against the Twins.

So far, Yankees newcomers Sabathia and Burnett are paying off on their colossal contracts — 12 years and \$243.5 million combined.

Oh, and Pettitte can still pitch, too.

All three starters went at least six innings against the Twins and each allowed only one earned run.

"The story of this series has been CC Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Andy Pettitte. All three of them were fantastic," Rodriguez said. "You throw on some good at-bats, you throw on some big clutch hits at the end, but only be-



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

The New York Yankees celebrate Sunday after eliminating Minnesota from the playoffs in three games.

cause of their great performance did we have an opportunity to do well."

Pettitte, 37, won the clincher Sunday night, yielding three hits and striking out seven in 6½ innings before manager Joe Girardi pulled him for Joba Chamberlain. Pettitte's 15th playoff victory tied him with John Smoltz for the most in major league history.

"Andy was awesome," Girardi said.

None of the Yankees starters had career years, but with the highest-scoring team in the majors they didn't need to. Chien-Ming Wang got hit hard before season-ending shoulder surgery. Chamberlain, who moved back to the bullpen against Minnesota, was a mediocre starter during the regular season.

Sabathia, Burnett and Pettitte form a fine trio, though. The re-

lievers have delivered, too, with Mariano Rivera finishing things off in familiar fashion.

"Once you see it, then you understand why pitching is so important — especially now," catcher Jorge Posada said.

It was a big reason the Yankees didn't even reach the playoffs last fall, extending their quest by another year to win their first World Series title since 2000. They haven't won a pennant since 2003, and this is their first appearance in the ALCS since 2004.

The Angels have eliminated the Yankees twice this decade, in the division series in 2002 on their way to winning the World Series and again in the first round in 2005. The Angels have plenty of starting pitching themselves, which should make for a tight series.

"As we move on to the ALCS,

our team's focus remains the same," owner George Steinbrenner said in a statement Monday. "With the support of the greatest fans in the world, we will continue to march forward as we have done all year."

Rodriguez was the offensive star against Minnesota, going 5-for-11 with two homers and six RBIs — including several clutch hits.

Jeter and Hideki Matsui homered in the opener to get the offense going, and Mark Teixeira went deep to end Game 2 in the 11th inning. After tying that one with a two-run shot in the ninth, Rodriguez evened Game 3 with a home run in the seventh. Posada hit a go-ahead drive in the same inning, giving the Yankees six homers in the series and plenty of momentum for the ALCS.



JACK DEMPSEY/AP

Philadelphia reliever Scott Eyre hurt his ankle going after a bunt.

MLB scoreboard

Playoffs

DIVISION SERIES

American League

New York 3, Minnesota 0

New York 7, Minnesota 2

New York 4, Minnesota 3, 11 innings

Sunday: New York 4, Minnesota 1

Los Angeles 3, Boston 0

Los Angeles 5, Boston 0

Los Angeles 4, Boston 1

Sunday: Los Angeles 7, Boston 6

National League

Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 0

Los Angeles 5, St. Louis 3

Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 2

Los Angeles 5, St. Louis 1

Philadelphia vs. Colorado

Philadelphia 5, Colorado 1

Colorado 5, Philadelphia 4

Sunday: Philadelphia 6, Colorado 5

Philadelphia leads series 2-1

Monday: Philadelphia (Lee 7-4) at Colorado (Jimenez 15-12)

Tuesday: Colorado at Philadelphia*

* — if necessary

Sunday

Yankees 4, Twins 1

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Minnesota	ab	r	h	bi
Jeter ss	4	0	0	0	Span cf	4	1	2	0
Damon lf	4	0	0	0	OCarer ss	3	0	0	0
Gardner cf	0	0	0	0	Mauer c	4	0	1	1
Teixeira 1b	3	1	0	0	Cuddyr 1b	4	0	2	0
ARdrz 3b	3	2	1	1	Kubel rf	4	0	0	0
HMatsu dh	3	0	1	0	DimYn lf	4	0	1	0
Hstn Jr pr-dh	0	0	0	0	BHarris 3b	4	0	0	0
Posada c	4	1	2	2	JMoris dh	3	0	0	0
Cano 2b	4	0	1	1	Punto 2b	3	0	1	0
Swisher rf	4	0	0	0					
McCar c-f lf	4	0	1	0					
Totals	33	4	7	4	Totals	33	1	7	1

New York 000 000 202-4
Minnesota 000 001 000-1

DP—Minnesota 1. LOB—New York 5, Minnesota 6. 2B—Jeter (2), Delm. Young (1), Punto (1). HR—A. Rodriguez (2), Posada (1). SB—Span (1).

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pettitte W, 1-0	6½	3	1	1	1	7
Chamberlain H, 1	¾	1	0	0	0	1
P.Higgins H, 2	¾	2	0	0	0	0
Ma.Rivera S, 1-1	1½	1	0	0	0	2

Minnesota	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pavano L, 0-1	7	5	2	2	0	9
Guerrier	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mahay	½	0	1	1	1	1
Rauch	0	0	1	1	1	0
Mijares	0	0	0	0	1	0
Nathan	¾	2	0	0	0	2

Rauch pitched to 1 batter in the 9th.

Mijares pitched to 1 batter in the 9th.

T—3:25. A—54,735 (46,632).

Phillies 6, Rockies 5

Philadelphia	ab	r	h	bi	Colorado	ab	r	h	bi
Rollins ss	5	1	1	0	CGnzlf lf	4	3	2	4
Victorn cf	5	1	0	0	Fowler cf	4	0	2	0
Utley 2b	4	2	3	1	Giambi ph	1	0	0	0
Howard 1b	4	0	1	2	Helton 1b	3	2	1	1
Werth rf	3	1	0	0	EYong pr	0	0	0	0
Ibanez lf	2	1	0	1	TLwtz ss	4	0	1	1
Lidge p	0	0	0	0	Torreal c	4	0	0	0
P.Feliz 3b	4	0	1	0	GAtkins 3b	4	0	2	2
C.Ruiz c	4	0	2	2	SPrgns rf	4	0	1	0
Happ p	1	0	0	0	Street p	0	0	0	0
Dobbs ph	1	0	0	0	Barmes 2b	4	0	0	0
Blanton p	1	0	0	0	Hamm p	0	0	0	0
S.Eyre p	0	0	0	0	Belisle p	1	0	0	0
Madson p	0	0	0	0	Beimel p	0	0	0	0
Stairs ph	1	0	0	0	Contrs p	0	0	0	0
Durbin p	0	0	0	0	S.Smith ph	1	0	0	0
BFrcns lf	0	0	0	0	FMoris p	0	0	0	0
					RBncr p	0	0	0	0
					Hawprr	1	0	0	0
Totals	32	6	8	6	Totals	35	5	10	5

Philadelphia 100 301 001-6
Colorado 201 100 100-5

DP—Philadelphia 1, Colorado 1. LOB—Philadelphia 9, Colorado 8. 2B—P.Feliz (1), C.Gonzalez (2), G.Atkins (2). HR—Utley (1), C.Gonzalez (1). SB—C.Gonzalez (2). S—Victorino. SF—Howard, Tulowitzki.

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Happ	3½	5	3	3	2	4
Blanton	¾	3	1	1	0	0
S.Eyre H, 1	¾	2	1	1	0	0
Madson BS, 1-1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Durbin W, 1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lidge S, 1-1	1	0	0	0	2	0

Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hamm	3½	4	4	4	3	5
Belisle	1	0	0	0	0	1
Beimel	¾	0	0	0	0	0
Contreras	1	1	1	1	2	2
F.Morales	1	0	0	0	0	0
R.Betancourt	1	1	0	0	1	3
Street L, 0-1	1	2	1	1	1	0

S.Eyre pitched to 2 batters in the 7th.

T—4:06. A—50,109 (50,449).

ALDS: Mistake on basepath costs Twins dearly

ALDS, FROM BACK PAGE

another baserunning mistake doomed the Twins.

"Late in the game, to give up those two home runs, I felt it deflated us a little bit and it was tough to get out of that hole," Pavano said.

Nick Punto led off the eighth with a double, then rounded third base hard on a dribbler up the middle by Span. But Derek Jeter cut it off before it hit the outfield and fired home to Posada.

Punto ran through a stop sign from third base coach Scott Ullger, then slammed on the brakes. But it was too late. Posada threw Punto out at third base, squelching a potential rally.

"You can go from hero to goat real quick," said Punto, who threw Detroit's Miguel Cabrera out at home in the 12th inning of

Minnesota's victory over the Tigers in the one-game playoff for the AL Central crown Tuesday. "Tonight I was the goat."

Mariano Rivera got four outs for the save, slamming on the door on 28 years of pro baseball in the Dome. The Twins will move into brand new outdoor Target Field next season, but weren't quite ready to leave this place yet.

It was a disappointing conclusion to a memorable final season under the roof. The Twins went 17-4 down the stretch and became the first team in league history to come from three games behind with four to play to win the division, thanks in large part to the raucous environment at the Metrodome.

"It was a great run this place had," first baseman Michael Cuddyer said. "It went away kicking and screaming."



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

Minnesota's Nick Punto reacts Sunday after being thrown out at third base during the eighth inning of Game 3 in Minneapolis.

SPORTS

Denver's Matt Prater



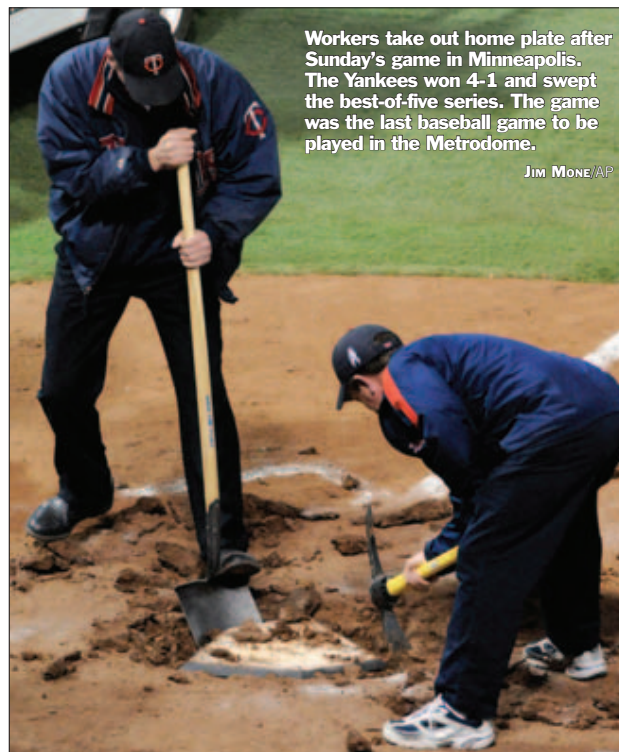
UNBEATEN BRONCOS
Denver edges New England
in OT to improve to 5-0
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A-ROD FINDS HIS SWING



The New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez watches his home run Sunday during the seventh inning of Game 3 of the American League division series against Minnesota.

KATHY WILLENS/AP



Workers take out home plate after Sunday's game in Minneapolis. The Yankees won 4-1 and swept the best-of-five series. The game was the last baseball game to be played in the Metrodome.

JIM MONE/AP

Rodriguez's seventh-inning homer helps Yankees complete sweep of Twins in AL division series, closes book on Metrodome

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Andy Pettitte dominating for the New York Yankees in the playoffs is as familiar to New Yorkers as cheesecake and floppy pizza slices.

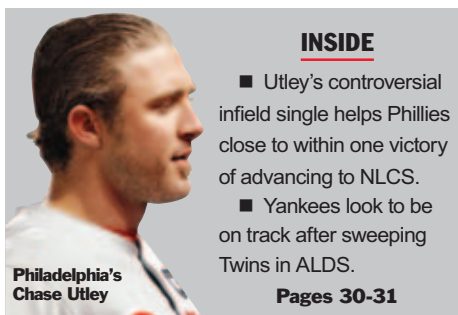
But Alex Rodriguez suddenly finding his October swing? That's a new addition to the Bronx Bombers' menu for playoff success.

Rodriguez and Jorge Posada hit seventh-inning home runs and Pettitte was brilliant for 6½ innings to help the Yankees advance to their first ALCS in five years with a 4-1 victory over the Minnesota Twins in their division series on Sunday night.

Rodriguez's long ball tied the game 1-1 in the seventh, the second time in as many games he's hit a huge home run. His two-run shot off Twins closer Joe Nathan in the ninth inning of Game 2 tied a game New York eventually won in 11 innings.

"Without Alex, we are not in this situation right now," said manager Joe Girardi, whose Yankees will host the Los Angeles Angels in Game 1 of the ALCS on Friday.

It was a statement series for one of the most talented players — and one of the biggest targets for criticism — in the game. Baseball's highest-paid player carried a .136 playoff average into this series and has been criticized in the Big Apple for his big-game failures and admission to using steroids while he was with the Texas Rangers.



Philadelphia's
Chase Utley

INSIDE

■ Utley's controversial infield single helps Phillies close to within one victory of advancing to NLCS.

■ Yankees look to be on track after sweeping Twins in ALDS.

Pages 30-31

He was 5-for-11 (.455) with two homers and six RBIs in the three-game sweep of the Twins.

"For A-Rod to have the series he had was absolutely tremendous," outfielder Nick Swisher said. "To put everyone else, just a nice little zipper over their lips for the way he's played in the postseason thus far. It's a great feeling, a great thing to see."

These new, looser Yankees have rallied around Rodriguez, and he has been visibly more relaxed since returning from hip surgery that caused him to miss the first month of the season.

"I knew that I couldn't change all the 0-for-4s, 0-for-5s and all the guys I left on base," Rodriguez said. "I'm content right now, both on and off the field."

Rodriguez's homer in the seventh helped make up for the lone blemish on a sterling start from Pettitte, who gave up one run on three hits with one walk and seven strikeouts. He carried a perfect game through four innings, but was nearly matched pitch for pitch by former Yankee Carl Pavano.

Joe Mauer's RBI-single in the sixth inning broke a scoreless tie and got the Metrodome rocking, but Rodriguez and Posada quickly responded to put the Yankees back in control.

"It seems like the whole postseason so far, we are kind of sputtering along a little bit and maybe when we give up the lead, our guys fire right back and score some runs," said Pettitte, who tied John Smoltz atop the career list with his 15th playoff victory.

Mariano Rivera got the last four outs in the final baseball game at the Metrodome, which didn't go quietly.

More than 54,000 Homer Hanky-waving fans brought plenty of nervous energy into the building after the Twins blew a two-run lead in the ninth inning of Game 2 in New York.

Pavano kept the powerful Yankees lineup on ice for the first five innings, and the place erupted when Mauer's single scored Denard Span for a 1-0 lead in the sixth.

But Pavano, who allowed two runs on five hits with a season-high nine strikeouts in seven innings, gave up the solo homers to Rodriguez and Posada before

SEE ALDS ON PAGE 31

Johnson wins, takes over points lead in Chase

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